



SCOTTISH HOMING UNION CONSTITUTION

GENERAL

- 1) The name of the Union shall be THE SCOTTISH HOMING UNION.
- 2) Unless the context requires a different meaning: “The Union” means The Scottish Homing Union – “Society” means any club of not less than five members having pigeons, with separate lofts, situated in Scotland affiliated to the Union. “Federation” means an association of four or more Societies “Member” means a member of the Union – “Council” means the Council of the Union constituted as herein after provided “Councillor means a member of the Council of the Union “Secretary” means Secretary and Treasurer of the Union, “Organisation” means any other authority organising the racing or showing of Racing/Homing pigeons under SHU Constitution and rules.
- 3) The objects for which the Union is established are:
 - a) The Provision of an Organisation for persons interested in Pigeon Racing and showing in all its branches.
 - b) The Provision of Uniform Rules and Regulations for the Ringing and Registration of Racing Pigeons as to the ownership and transfer of same and for the conduct of Races and shows.
 - c) The Promotion of Races and Shows and the provision of money and other prizes for same and grant donations for objects approved by the Annual General Meeting.
 - d) The trading in any requisites for the provision and benefit of Members as approved by the AGM from time to time.
 - e) The provision of a Court of Appeal for the final disposal of all questions or disputes that may arise between and among its members and organisations.
 - f) The protection and advancement of the interests of its members; with legal aid in respect of questions arising between themselves and/or third parties on matters falling within the foregoing objects and approved by the Council.
- 4) The income and property of the Union where and when so ever derived shall be applied solely towards the objects of the Union.
- 5) Members of the Union shall be of two classes – Individual and Affiliated Member. Affiliated Members are members of a Society affiliated to the Union.
- 6) Any person whose loft housing Racing Pigeons (includes Show/Racing Pigeons) is situated in Scotland may apply for admission to the Union on the form issued by and approved by the Union. Clubs to be responsible for Affiliated Members.
- 7) The Constitution and Rules and any subsequent alteration and additions thereto, duly made in pursuance of a resolution of a General Meeting shall constitute a binding contract on all members of the Union.
- 8) Every existing member and, on admission, each new member, shall be furnished with a copy of the Constitution and Rules and every member shall be bound to comply with same and with any amendments thereof duly adopted or approved by the Union.
- 9) Each Affiliated Society shall, before the 1st day of March in each year, furnish to the Secretary a list of all its Members names and addresses on approved form, and shall remit subscription for each member and for each and every member of partnerships. Such list shall show the names of partnerships grouped with the names and addresses of each partner. Senior partner to be first named.
- 10) Individual members shall pay a subscription direct to the Secretary as fixed at AGM.
- 11) At meetings, each Member shall have one vote as hereinafter indicated.

- 12) The Office bearers of the Union shall be a President and two Vice- Presidents, who must be members of the Union and shall be elected annually by the Council, from within the Council, at the March Statutory Meeting:
 - a) The Secretary will be a full time official whose conditions of employment will be decided by the Council to which he/she will be directly responsible. In the event of a vacancy arising at any time the following procedure will apply:
 - i) The Council will appoint an interim Secretary who will act in accordance with the instructions of the Council during the period of the vacancy.
 - ii) The Post will be advertised in the Fancy Press and applications will only be accepted from members of the Union. A special meeting of the Council will be convened for the purpose of interviewing all applicants and making an appointment.
 - iii) The Council shall have power to determine the date from which the successful applicants appointment will be effective.
- 13) The Office Bearers may vote at any Special General Meeting as members but shall have no other vote. The Chairman of the Meeting shall have a casting vote should there be an equal number of votes cast by the members present on any question.
- 14) An auditor (Who shall be a Chartered Accountant) shall be appointed at the AGM to hold office for one year and shall be eligible for re election.
- 15) No Officer or Official of any Society or Federation shall be deemed an agent of the Union and the Union shall not be bound by or be liable in respect of any such Officer or Official.
- 16) Any Office Bearers of the Union shall, in all matters wherein they are authorised to act by these rules, be deemed to be agents of the Union but shall not have power to pledge the credit of the Union, unless specially authorised by the Council or General Meeting.
- 17) The Objects of the Union shall be carried out and the whole affairs of the Union shall be conducted by the Council.
- 18) The Council shall be composed of the Office Bearers, other than the Secretary, one Delegate for every 150 Members or part thereof for each Federation.
- 19) The Meetings of the Council will be called by the President with due notice of time and place or shall be called by him within 21 days of receiving a written request signed by four elected Federation Delegates. Three Statutory meetings to be held during each year, VIZ one on the first Sunday in October, one on the second Sunday in December, and one on first Sunday in March. These meetings will be held in Central Scotland.
- 20) The Council shall cause Minutes of all resolutions and proceedings of the Council to be entered in books to be from time to time provided for the purpose, and in particular shall cause to be entered in such Minutes:
 - a) The names of the Councillors present at each meeting.
 - b) All matters of business transacted.
 - c) The short particulars of any references to the Council and its findings on the matter.
 - d) Minutes of all meetings, including Ad Hoc and Appeal Court meetings to be published in the Fancy Press.
- 21) A Banking Account shall be kept in such Bank as the Council shall appoint in the name of the Union and all monies shall forthwith on receipt be paid into such Bank. Cheques on the said banking accounts shall be signed by such members of the Council as the Council may from time to time prescribe and shall be countersigned as by the Secretary or some other person appointed by the Council for this purpose, At no time will the Secretary retain in his hands a greater sum than £25 for more than seven days.
- 22) The Council shall cause true accounts to be kept of the assets of the Union of the sums of money received and expended by the Union and the purpose in respect of which such money was received and expended and the assets, credits and liabilities of the Union.

- 23) The books of Accounts shall be kept by the Secretary. The Council shall by resolution determine to what extent the books and accounts shall be open to inspection by members.
- 24) The Secretary shall balance the books and accounts of the Union at 1st October in each year and shall prepare a statement (after referred to as Annual Account) showing receipts and expenditures for the past year and assets and the liabilities of the Union at that date and shall submit the same to the Auditors for their examination and docquet within 30 days for the purpose aforesaid. The Auditors shall have access to the books of the Union and may require from the Council, Office bearers, or Servants of the Union, such information or explanation as may be necessary for the performance of their duties.
- 25) The Auditor shall sign a certificate at the foot of the Annual Account, stating whether in their opinion the same exhibits a true and correct view of the state of affairs of the Union and copies of the certificate and annual account shall be issued to the members at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting.
- 26) The Annual General Meeting will be held in Central Scotland on the second Sunday in December.
 - a) A Special General Meeting may be convened by the decision of the Council or by a requisition signed by not less than 150 members of the Union, the Signatories to specify in writing the resolution or resolutions they propose to submit at such meeting. No other business to be transacted.
- 27) The procedure to be adopted in dealing with disputes will be as follows;
 - a) Disputes between members of a Society on Society matters, will be dealt with by the Society with the right of appeal to the Federation to which the Society is affiliated. Any member of a Society may appeal against a Society decision to the Federation of which the Society is a Member and thence to the Appeal Court of the Union, or, if the Society is not a member of a Federation, direct to the Union.
 - b) Disputes between members of a Federation or between members and Societies or the Federation on Federation matters, shall be dealt with by the Federation with the right of appeal to the Appeal Court of the Union.
 - c) Disputes between individual members of the Union and any individual or affiliated members or organisations by third parties shall be dealt with by an Ad Hoc Committee appointed by the Council in accordance with Article 32 and 33 hereof with the right of Appeal to the Appeal Court of the Union.
 - d) Disputes between Individual/Affiliate members or members of a Society/ Federation/ Organisation and another Society/ Federation/ Organisation shall be dealt with by an Ad Hoc Committee appointed by the Council in accordance with Article 32 and 33 hereof with the right of Appeal to the Appeal Court of the Union.
 - e) A Minute will be kept of all proceedings before a Society/Federation or Ad Hoc Committee in connection with any dispute or complaint and shall contain a record of all matters submitted and the decision reached.
 - f) Any person or Organisation desiring to appeal against a decision shall lodge with the Secretary of the body against whose decision the appeal is made, within 14 days of that decision, a written notification of Appeal stating the grounds or reasons on which it is desired to appeal and shall deposit the sum of £30 which may be returned at the discretion of the body by which the Appeal is heard. Within ten days of receiving such notification, the Secretary shall forward to the Secretary of that body by which the Appeal is to be heard, (i) The written notification of Appeal, (ii) The Minute Book of the proceedings Appealed against and (iii) All productions in the said proceedings.
 - g) All parties in the Appeal shall be entitled to have copies of the written notification of Appeal and the Minute of the proceedings appealed against.

- h) All Appeals must stand as written in by Appellants. SHU Secretary to acknowledge receipt only.
 - i) All Appeals to be confidential to Officials of the SHU until subject matter is circulated to persons concerned.
 - j) All parties involved in Ad Hoc or Appeal Court should hear all the evidence and not be excluded from the meeting until the Committee Members wish to come to a decision.
- 28) In any disputes within the Union all parties must be given 7 days notice in writing of the hearing of a dispute together with its purpose, locality and time of assembly. Persons so summoned may state their case by letter or personal appearance before the Court. The Court However may deem it necessary for all parties concerned in the Appeal to appear personally. Should any party fail to appear when so summoned, the Court shall have the power to take disciplinary action against that party.
- 29) The Appeal Court shall be composed of President, Two Vice Presidents and eight members of the Union to be elected by the Council other than those who have been members of an Ad Hoc Committee on the same case. The Union Solicitor may be in attendance if deemed necessary. The Appeal Court shall have power to vary the decisions of Societies, Federations and other affiliated organisations in all cases brought before them and to censure, suspend, expel or fine members or organisations (to a maximum of £100) for breach of the rules or refusal to comply with any decision of the Union, Society, or Federation. Five members to form a quorum.
- 30) The Appeal Court will sit in Glasgow or Edinburgh or such place as the Council may determine, to deal with disputes within 60 days of dispute being submitted. All decisions to be intimated to the parties concerned by recorded delivery.
- 31) The decisions of the Appeal Court shall be final and binding on all parties and organisations.
- 32) An Ad Hoc Committee shall consist of at least five members of the Council who will be appointed by the Council as necessary.
- 33) The Ad Hoc Committee and all societies and Federations shall have power to censure, suspend or even expel members for breach of the rules or refusal to comply with any decisions of the Society, Federation or Union subject to the right of Appeal to the Appeal Court of the Union. Suspension or expulsion from a Society or Federation shall involve suspension or expulsion from the Union and vice versa.
- 34) Any Organisation expelling or suspending a member must notify the Union Secretary within seven days of issuing such expulsion or suspension and shall send evidence that the member has been notified of the suspension or expulsion and of the right of appeal. The member shall forfeit any claim to the assets of the Union of his affiliated organisation and all ring numbers registered in his name shall stand suspended from date of his suspension or expulsion in the records of the Union.
- a) No birds can be raced or shown in any circumstances from the loft of a suspended member during the period of suspension. Suspended members will be debarred from all activities organised by Organisations affiliated to the union.
 - b) Where one member of a partnership is suspended for an offence not involving the remaining members of a partnership, the remaining partners may, at the discretion of the Council, be allowed to transfer a stipulated proportion of the rings registered in the name of the partnership. These birds can only be raced or shown when they have been separately registered from the suspended members loft.
- 35) All expulsions and suspensions not appealed against must be submitted to the Council for confirmation. Notice of expulsion of any member or Society shall be sent to Federation Secretaries who will be responsible for notifying Societies. A record of all cases shall be kept by the Union Secretary.
- 36) All rings registered in the suspended or expelled party's name shall be ineligible for transfer until confirmation by the Union.

- 37) In the event of any casual vacancies arising in the Union/Federation/Organisation, Officials/Delegates shall be filled by the respective Management Committee.
- 38) Union Secretary to be advised of all disputes settled locally.
- 39) All questions of the interpretation of this Constitution and Rules shall be referred to the Council whose decision thereon shall be final and binding on all members and Organisations.
- 40) Proposals of alterations of the Constitution, and or Rules, must be made in writing and duly seconded and must be in the hands of the Secretary prior to the 31st October preceding the AGM when such alteration will require two thirds of votes cast by members present and voting.
- 41) Notice of all Council meetings and a list of Delegates to the Scottish Homing Union Council to be published in the Fancy Press .

STANDING ORDERS FOR MEETINGS

- 1) All General Meetings held by the Organisations within the Union to be open to all members of concerned organisations.
- 2) It shall be within the right of any member, or of the Council, to move a motion subject to the ruling of the Chairman, who will decide whether the motion is relevant or not. The mover shall have the right to reply on points raised in the discussion previous to the vote being taken.
- 3) Any relevant amendment may be proposed without any previous notice, but the decision of the Chairman on the relevancy of same shall be final. The Chairman shall have a deliberative and casting vote. No voting by Proxy allowed.
- 4) The declaration of the Chairman that a resolution has or has not been carried shall, unless a poll is demanded, be conclusive, but if a poll or any question is demanded, it shall be taken by ballot or by show of hands as the meeting shall decide. No minority vote can win at meetings within the Union.
- 5) On the Chairman rising to a point of order, the member addressing the meeting must resume his seat. Members failing to obey the ruling of the Chairman may be suspended from meeting or meetings.
- 6) Any of the foregoing standing orders may be suspended by two thirds of votes cast by members present and voting.

RULES

- 1) All Racing and Showing of Racing Pigeons in Scotland shall be conducted under the rules of the Scottish Homing Union and shall be subject to its control and authority.
- 2) No Member shall take part in any race or show (i.e. exhibit, judge, compete etc.) unless held under the Scottish Homing Union Rules or the Rules of a Union in membership of the Confederation of Long Distance Racing Pigeon Unions of Great Britain or other bodies approved by the Union.
- 3) Shows and races can only be held under licence from the Union and under Union Rules. All shows must be registered with the Union. Judges can only be appointed who are members of a recognised Union, unless from overseas. Judges are not eligible to compete at shows where they are judging. Application to hold special races by non-affiliated organisations must be made (in writing), on or before 31st March in each year to the Secretary, accompanied by a fee of 50p when an approved form will be sent for completion by the officials of that organisation before a licence is granted.
- 4) Deleted (93 AGM).
- 5) No bird can be entered by a member in a race or show unless it is his bona fide property and has been registered in his name and correct address at which he resides in the books of any recognised Union 14 days before the event. Penalties for contraventions to be **FIRST OFFENCE – SHOWING OR RACING** Disqualification only. **SECOND OFFENCE – SHOWING** – Suspended from all shows in the following year. **RACING** – Suspended for the first five Federation races in the following year. **THIRD OFFENCE** – Suspended for one year all racing and showing. Any penalties incurred to be removed after three years from last offence.
- 6) Every exhibitor at all shows, on winning award cards, must submit flown certificates signed by two Officials of his club or Organisation in which the bird has been race-marked. The Show Secretary shall submit to the Union Secretary a note of any exhibitor who fails within ten days after the show to submit such flown certificates. Flown certificates to be valid for a period of one year only. All contraventions of rules notified by Open Show Secretaries shall be dealt with by specially convened meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee during the month of February each year. The Ad Hoc Committee shall have power to censure, suspend or fine offenders as it may deem appropriate, having regard to the nature of the offence. No monetary penalty shall be in excess of £10 (Ten Pounds).
 - a) The President and Secretary of all organisations holding shows shall submit to the Union Secretary, within four weeks from the date of the show, a signed statement certifying they have examined flown certificates for all prize winners.
- 7) The ring numbers of all winning birds at shows must be verified by the Union Secretary.
- 8) All members must produce a certificate of ownership when requested by Club Officials or Federation Officials.
- 9) Rings shall be issued to the members by the Union at such prices as the Union shall determine from time to time. A record shall be kept by the Secretary of all rings issued and it shall take priority over all records. Rings will only be issued to members of the Union.
- 10) In all cases where a bird changes ownership, the change shall be notified to the Secretary within 14 days. Notification and application for transfer of the ring will be made on the official form and shall bear the signature of members concerned. T/F must have postage for return. Fee to be decided at AGM. Rings issued by any recognised Union will be accepted for competitive purposes under the Rules of the Union, provided they are registered in the members name.
- 11) The Rules relating to registration and transfer of rings will be strictly enforced.
- 12) Clubs must adopt a method of publishing each race or show result. Objection time limits under the race rules will operate from the date of such publication.

- 13) Any Organisation desiring local additions to the Union Rules must submit them to the Union for confirmation and if approved they shall be registered by the Secretary.
- 14) Each organisation must register the geographical area it covers, such area not to be exclusive to any single organisation. Alterations to be approved by the Union.
- 15) Organisations shall have power to expel or suspend members for misconduct, being conduct injurious to the character and interests of the organisation
- 16) Where a change of address or a change in partnership either adding thereto or taking there from has taken place, immediate notice must be given and re-registration fee to be decided at AGM, will be charged. Changes shall be made on approved form.
- 17) A member having a stray pigeon in his loft must give it its liberty and if it does not leave within seven days or is unfit to do so, he shall, without delay, report it to the appropriate Union Secretary with full ring particulars, who will notify the owner and finder of their respective names. The utmost care must be taken that these particulars are correct and that the communication bears the finders name and address.
- 18) All members of the Union shall be compelled to acknowledge within three days any reported pigeon. The owner should make immediate contact with the finder to have bird returned or transferred to finder if finder is agreeable. If no action is taken a second report will be sent and if the member does not acknowledge this within seven days, he may be AUTOMATICALLY SUSPENDED AND HIS CLUB SECRETARY NOTIFIED. SUCH SUSPENSION CAN ONLY BE UPLIFTED BY THE UNION SECRETARY AFTER THE OFFENDER PRODUCES EVIDENCE OF HAVING CLAIMED OR TRANSFERRED THE PIGEON, THERE WILL BE A CHARGE OF £10 WHICH MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE HE IS REINSTATED.
- 19) Members guilty of harbouring, training, racing, showing or breeding from any stray pigeon shall be subject to the fullest penalties.
- 20) A Public Relations/Publicity Officer will be appointed by the members attending the AGM the duties of this person to be:
 - a) A liaison between the National Press, Radio and Television and the Scottish Pigeon Fancy.
 - b) The improvement of the image of the sport or fancy.
 - c) The pursuit of technical developments relating to pigeon veterinary drugs and such like, including research. This person to be responsible to the Council, but not a member or other Office Bearer of the Council.

RACE RULES

- 1) Members must have their flying distance measured by the Great Circle System by approved measurers and have their running distance to clock measured by tape, chain or wheel. Running allowance 4 mins to the mile by the nearest available route and cycles half that time. Running time will be allowed under unforeseen circumstances providing claim is made at clock checking. Members having two lofts separated by more than ten yards but less than fifty yards must fly to the shorter distance of the two lofts. Over 50 yards requires separate ring registration for the loft location.
- 2) All birds competing in a race under SHU Rules will be marked by ringing with rubber rings issued by, or approved by the Union and pertinent to that race only. No member may participate in race marking or basketing/ crating his own birds other than to present them to a minimum of four responsible operators/members/organisers, who shall not be partners of that member. Further, the minimum number of adult SHU members with sealed/unsealed, crated/basketed race rung birds, whilst awaiting official uplifting/freighting, subsequent to race marking, shall be four, and of these, not more than one may temporarily absent himself from the remaining three.
- 3) Birds competing in races must be rung with a recognised Union Ring and registered in the books of the appropriate Union in the name and correct address of the competing member and must be the bona fide property of the members entering them. All birds must fly to members loft and be shown, if requested, to two members of the Committee at any time within three days of the race date. Said parties to have the right to toss the bird 100yds from the loft and to see that it re-enters owners loft.
- 4) All birds will be conveyed at owners risk and no birds suffering from disease, disablement or vermin of any kind will be allowed into basket. The decision of Basket Convenor on this matter to be final.
- 5) The Committee appointed shall meet after each race is flown at a place and time appointed to satisfy themselves that everything is in order.
- 6) In the event of any bird being credited with a velocity that is considered impossible, the club or other organising body shall have power to disqualify the bird although there may be no evidence to support any fraudulent practice on the part of the competitor or any other person responsible for marking or dispatching the bird to the race point.
- 7) Prizes will be awarded on the system of velocity proper. The bird flying the greatest number of yards or fractional parts of a yard per minute shall be declared the winner.
- 8) In arriving at the best average velocity, the total distance flown and the total time occupied by each competitor's first bird in each race to be taken, and the average velocity calculated from such time and distance. Any competitor failing to time in from any one race cannot qualify for club averages except in the case of a race where no competitors time an arrival, in which case the race will be disregarded for average purposes. When a programme cannot be completed through unforeseen circumstances, this rule is to be applied. All average trophies and special prizes, unless otherwise stated, shall be flown for in accordance with this rule.
- 9) Members failing to compete in any race will be ineligible to compete for average prizes.
- 10) In the event of there being fewer birds timed than there are prizes, the prizes not won shall be equally divided amongst the birds timed in.
- 11) Any objection to the race result must be made to the Secretary in writing within 7 days of publication, except in cases of error or fraud subsequently discovered. Where prizes and pool money are paid out and errors discovered, all monies thus paid out must be refunded.
- 12) Should any bird arrive without a race mark, the bird will be disqualified from taking any position in that race.
- 13) All race and pool sheets must be written in ink or indelible pencil stating full ring particulars, colour and sex.

- 14) Club Secretaries, unless otherwise stated, shall retain all race sheets and race ring duplicates with the exception of their own which will be held by the President or other nominee of the club appointed to do so.
- 15) Deleted (AGM 1993).
- 16) One Day Races close at Midnight on day of liberation.
- 17) The Federations and Societies must insert on race sheets the colour, prefix letter and outside number of rubber ring.
- 18) Duplicates of rubber rings shall be retained until the Annual General Meeting of the Union held on the 2nd Sunday in December in each year.
- 19) Societies and Federations shall be responsible for retaining race sheets for a minimum period of one year.
- 20) Minimum fee for return of stray pigeons shall be decided at the AGM, in the event of the owner collecting the bird from the finder he will be obliged to give a nominal fee for out of pocket expenses.
- 21) Members who are affiliated to more than one Federation or Society may only compete in Open Races in the section comprising the Federation or Society through which they are affiliated to the Union. In all races an entry form must be submitted to all clubs accepting duplication. Such entry forms to be lodged at the time laid down by the clubs and not later than the time of liberation, otherwise they cannot compete for prizes in such clubs.
- 22) In races of two days or more "Hours of darkness" to be determined by the organisation concerned.
- 23) All containers, crates and panniers connected with pigeon racing under SHU rules must be sealed with official SHU Clock Seals. No other seal is permitted within organisations.
- 24) Individual organisations will decide whether members may be allowed to race young birds which are wearing removable address rings or which have been wing stamped with name, address or telephone number.
- 25) The Scottish Homing Union is responsible for all measurements.
- 26) Members of all SHU clubs should wing stamp all their young birds with either: A) A personal Tel no or address B) Their Club address or name. That any member not complying should not be allowed to race their Y/B's.
- 27) In the event of an escape, pigeons must either be re-rubbered or have their ID numbers recorded.

CLOCK RULES

- 1) The only clocks recognised will be those approved by the Scottish Homing Union as amended from time to time. REFER TO SCOTTISH HOMING UNION OFFICE.
- 2) All clocks must be in the hands of the Clock Committee or official Clock Setters for examination and running at least 14 days before being used in a race.
- 3) Should any clock gain or lose time at the rate of more than three minutes variation in the 24 hours, a fast clock shall be regarded as correct and a slow clock shall have double the time added.
- 4) The Club or Clock Setter shall have power to detain any clock which they consider doubtful and submit it to a thorough test and examination.
- 5) Master Timers and Control Clocks must have a permanent record of each stage between start and finish of each race.
- 6) (a) Where a member returns a stopped clock, member will be credited with time at checking provided clock is otherwise correct.
(b) In the event of a clock becoming faulty after a bird is timed in, the member can have his clock opened by another member and he will be credited with the time recorded for his race ring in the other members clock, the member opening the stopped clock will return it to the Clock Committee for examination.
- 7) Competitors may safeguard against their clock stopping by inserting in another clock set for race, a slip of paper showing his name, address and inside and outside particulars of rubber ring timed in his own clock. Both clocks to be returned to Clock Setter. Only in the event of the original clock suffering a penalty will the time read off the duplicate clock be accepted
(d) Seals issued by the Union will be affixed to clocks or clock boxes at setting for all races; the number of the seal being recorded by the issuing Committee or Clock Setter.
- 8) When taking the variation, the total gain or loss of the clock to be averaged through the hours which the clock has run. When the gain or loss has been found, same to be added or deducted as the case may be, only up to time of the arrival concerned.
- 9) Organisations who promote races may determine times when clocks will be checked after timing of birds and clocks, where possible, must be checked on day birds are timed. Where clocks cannot reach the Clock Station on day of liberation, member must insert a box in clock and puncture, whether an arrival has been timed or not. No clock control is necessary for clocks that print or record a permanent record of the day or date it is struck. Said time to be before midnight on competitor's clock. On the following and subsequent days, if necessary, insert another box or thimble and puncture. These controls must be within 23 hours of preceding control.
- 10) Should a member require his clock for a race other than a Club Race, application for same to be made when clock will be given out under seal. All clocks to be returned to Parent Club under seal. Under no circumstances has a competitor to retain possession of an unsealed clock during racing season
- 11) Clocks to be read to the nearest second.
- 12) Clocks competing under the Rules of the Scottish Homing Union must have the approved glasses fitted. Toulet puncturing clocks must be sealed in a wooden box and only round telescopic boxes are approved for use by the Scottish Homing Union.
- 13) Competitors using open end thimbles must insert open end down when clocking arrivals. Any infringements of this rule, competitors will be credited with checking time of clock.
- 14) Under no circumstances shall a member, including Clock Setter, set or check or withdraw thimbles from his own clock.
- 15) That all clocks used for a race must be sealed with a seal issued and approved by the Scottish Homing Union, seals to be purchased through Federation Secretaries.

- 16) Clocks are to be set, where possible, to allow competitor to clock thimble or box into no. 1 receptacle. Where clock does not show no. 1 receptacle it will be re-set.
- 17) Clock setters to examine clock to ascertain if receptacle is empty and clock in order before checking.
- 18) Only the pertinent rubber race rings from a single bird in a specified race can be inserted into a thimble/container of a clock set/used for that race. Such a thimble/container is used therefore exclusively for one bird and any other content such as paper or race rubber rings not pertaining to that specific race is termed “debris” and is of no consequence. Should, however, race rubber rings belonging to two or more birds participating in the identical current race be found together in a single thimble/container extracted from a clock, then the entire contents of that thimble/container are void and each such involved bird eliminated from that race, forfeiting any position/cash gained, including the right to flown certificates for that race and all pools and prize monies.
- 19) Competitors’ names race and date to be written on all dials/paper strips. These must be signed by the Clock Setter. Dials/paper strips which have 24 hour divisions to be set at proper reading VIZ 7PM – 1900 hrs.
- 20) Electronic Timing Systems may be used for a) Training b) Single Loft Races
 - a) (See ETS Rules).

CLUB RULES

- 1) This Club/Federation/Organisation shall be called:
 - a) Its objects being Training, Racing and Showing Racing Pigeons and the improvement of the sport of Pigeon Racing and all members thereof must be members of the Scottish Homing Union.
- 2) The club area shall be defined by the club. Federation boundaries to be recorded using map grid references.
- 3) The management of the club shall be vested in the Committee of Management, which shall consist of a minimum of five members including President, Vice President and Secretary and Treasurer, the Chairman to have a deliberative and casting vote. The Secretary and/or Treasurer shall keep a correct record of all business transacted. Should any member of the Committee absent himself from three consecutive meetings without satisfactory reason, his place may be declared vacant and another appointed to act in his stead.
- 4) Any person desirous of becoming a member must be proposed and seconded at a properly convened meeting of the club and elected by a majority vote of those present.
- 5) Any member wishing to resign must do so in writing to the club Secretary not later than the date of the Annual General Meeting but prior to election of Office Bearers for ensuing year otherwise he will be held responsible for the annual subscription of the ensuing year. At this time he will pay up all arrears and forfeit any claim to the property of the club.
- 6) The annual subscription to be fixed at the Annual General Meeting of each year. Subscriptions to include Federation and Union dues. No member will be allowed to compete in any race or show until all subscriptions and dues have been paid. The Annual Subscription to be the same for all members.
- 7) Should there be a deficit at the end of the season, each member to pay an equal proportion of same.
- 8) The AGM will be held each year for the purpose of passing the balance sheet, election of office-bearers and transacting any other competent business. Where any member wishes to alter, delete or add to any recognised organised activities, notice of same must be given 28 days before the AGM to Club Secretary (in writing). Secretary to prepare agenda with resolutions along with balance sheet, to be in the members hands at least 7 days before the Meeting. Notice in writing of any General meeting, whether Annual or Special shall be issued to each member entitled to vote thereat not less than 7 days prior to the date of such meeting, but the non receipt of such notice by any member shall not invalidate the proceedings at a General Meeting.
- 9) By giving 14 days notice to the Secretary, a Special Meeting may be convened at any time by a requisition signed by one-third of the total membership, the signatories to specify in writing the resolution or resolutions they propose to submit to such meeting. No other business to be transacted. The majority of the members present to decide any question or questions submitted.
- 10) An Emergency Meeting may be convened at any time by the President in the event of matters of urgency arising which cannot be dealt with by the normal procedure.
- 11) The club, or the Committee of Management, shall have the power to censure, suspend or expel any member for misconduct. Such suspension or expulsion shall mean the forfeiture of all claims against the Club and its assets.
- 12) The club cannot be dissolved unless a two-thirds majority of its members give their consent in writing which should be obtained at a special meeting convened for the purpose of such dissolution. Club assets must be realised and divided equally amongst all members who are free from debt to the club.
- 13) Where two or more members are in partnership paying one subscription only one is entitled to hold office or to vote at meetings.

- 14) Club/Federation/Organisation Bye-Laws to suit local conditions may be made but shall not infringe any rule contained herein and shall be submitted to the Union for confirmation under Rule 13 of the Union Rules.
- 15) Championship and Specialist Club members whose subscriptions are not paid on or before 1st March of each year will be held as having resigned from the club.
- 16) On change of partnership, all trophies won in the hands of the partnership shall be returned to the awarding authority and the senior partner shall so advise the Union Secretary.

EXAMPLE OF CALCULATION FOR CLOCK VARIATION

Clocks set Friday at 20.55.20 Clock reading 22.55.20

Clocks checked Sat at 21.40.50 Clock reading 21.43.30

Therefore total time clock ran = 24hrs 48min 10sec = 89290 sec

This is the Long Run (LR)

Bird Timed 14.30.25

Time from clock set till bird timed = 17hrs 35min 5sec = 63305 sec

This is the short run (SR)

Clock Gain 2min 40sec = 160 sec

To calculate – Multiply the Short Run (SR) by the secs Clock has gained or lost and divide by the Long Run (LR)

In this example: $\frac{63305 \text{ sec (SR)} \times 160 \text{ sec (gained)}}{89290 \text{ sec (LR)}}$

= 113.43 secs gained
(rounded down) = 113 secs.

The clock gained 113 secs from setting till bird's arrival. This time must be subtracted from dial time. In the case of a slow clock the time must be added. Where a clock is not set correctly, the error will be deducted from the bird's arrival time if set fast, and added if set slow. **Only the time gained or lost should be included in the calculation for clock variation. For example – If a clock is set, say 10 secs fast and checked 20 secs fast the total gain is only 10 secs.**

Clocks gaining or losing at a rate of more than 3 mins variation in 24hrs – refer to Clock Rule 3

RULES FOR ELECTRONIC TIMING SYSTEMS (ETS)

An up-to-date list of SHU Approved ETS is available from the SHU Office
For Rules governing clocks requiring rubber rings – See SHU Clock Rules
The following separate rules apply to Electronic Timing Systems (ETS):

RULES

- 1) Electronic Timing Systems can be used in training.
- 2) Electronic Timing Systems can be used in Single Loft Races.
- 3) Electronic Timing Systems can be used to record arrival times of race birds.
- 4) Electronic Timing Systems must be fitted within the loft.
- 5) Permanent records to be retained by the club.
- 6) Only versions of software approved by SHU are acceptable.
- 7) Access Codes, electronic key and Club system must be administered by person authorised by the Club.
- 8) Rubber Rings are not required with ETS. Where race organisers use Double Rubber Rings as safeguard, entries fitted with ETS can also be double rung.
- 9) Organisation must manually set and check ETS to Master Timer and strike Organisation Master Timer.
- 10) Organisation Officials have the right to inspect trapping system used.
- 11) ETS can only record the arrival time after the pigeon has entered the loft.
- 12) In the event of an escape, where required, ETS birds must have their official Union ID Ring Number recorded.
- 13) Assignment or marking of pigeons to be carried out by authorised Organisation personnel.
- 14) Competitor's names, race and date to be recorded on all ETS print outs for race, and signed by ETS/Clock Setter/Convenor, or appointed Club/Organisation Official, and retained for one year or following AGM.
- 15) Only Electronic Rings purchased from the Scottish Homing Union can be used with ETS.
- 16) ETS do not require to be controlled.
- 17) Operating procedures before, during and after races should be in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Responsibility for providing manufacturers instruction manual to organisations rest with the owner of the ETS.
- 18) The Club/Organisation has the power to detain any ETS they consider doubtful.
- 19) In the event of an ETS failing to record arrival time, on presenting pigeon with assigned ETS ring at checking station, member will be credited with checking time.
- 20) In the event of ETS variation, calculation to be made as per example in SHU Rule Book.
- 21) Organisations that promote races may determine times when ETS will be checked after timing of birds, and ETS, where possible, must be checked on day birds are timed.
- 22) Sensor pads to be numbered & sealed in position.
- 23) The race progress report produced by ETS is an accepted record of any pigeons timed in on a race that takes more than one day. Two copies of the race report to be taken which will both be signed by the clock checker and the fancier. One copy will be held by the organisation and the other by the fancier. The ETS clock will still be struck off at the later date.

RING VERIFICATIONS

CLUB SECRETARIES MAY VERIFY RACE/SHOW RESULTS AT A COST OF 10P PER RING (SEND S.A.E. FOR RETURN)

MEMBERS MAY REQUEST A RING PRINT-OUT AT A COST OF £1 PLUS S.A.E.

ADVERTISING MAIL SHOTS

IF YOUR ORGANISATION IS HAVING A SALE OR ORGANISING AN EVENT, FOR A SMALL FEE THE SHU CAN POST YOUR FLIERS TO FANCIERS VIA A MAIL SHOT – TELEPHONE THE OFFICE ON 01698 286983 FOR DETAILS

TRANSFERS – LOFT TRANSFERS – VACCINATION FORMS – INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP FORMS – SHOW REGISTRATION AND VERIFICATION FORMS ETC ARE ALL AVAILABLE FROM THE SHU OFFICE (SEND S.A.E.)

MEASUREMENTS

MEASUREMENTS ARE PROVIDED TO CLUB SECRETARIES ON REQUEST BUT ANY MEMBERS WISHING TO HAVE PERSONAL PRINT-OUTS OF THEIR DISTANCES SHOULD SEND A LETTER STATING THEIR NAME AND LOFT NUMBER AND DISTANCES REQUIRED i.e. STATING THEIR FEDERATION OR SNFC RACES. THESE WILL BE SUPPLIED AND INVOICED DIRECT TO THE MEMBER.