

1965

Revised Standard For American Rollers

By GIL STEVENS, President American Roller Club

Following is the official Standard of the American Roller Club which was recognized by the National Pigeon Association at its National Show held at Costa Mesa, Calif. in January 1965.

Size and shape, (20 points)—American Rollers are to be of medium size—approximately 7-11 ozs. Body to be gracefully proportioned, showing good width of chest, and tapering gradually to the head. The main object in size and shape is conformation—the bird to be properly proportioned (i. e.) beak to head, head to neck, neck and legs to body. Example: A properly proportioned bird of over 11 ozs. or under 7 ozs. should be scored over an ill proportioned bird of any weight.

Head, (5 points)—The head should have a graceful, continuously curving oval skull not round, nor too long, to be in perfect keeping with the proportions of the body, and the neck. Head to be neither pinched, or narrow, nor too full in front.

Beak (5 points)—The beak to be of medium size, in proportion to the head. Wattles to be of fine white texture, not too exaggerated. Selves may have colored beaks according to color.

Eyes, (5 points)—American Rollers must have pearl eyes only; however, the pearl eye, as recognized by the ARC may vary from course pink, sometimes referred to as the gravel eye, to the white, or fish eye. The pupil of the eye is to be small and round, in the center of the eye. Eye to be encircled by fine white eye cere.

Neck, (5 points)—The neck is to be of medium length, full, rather than thin, fairly stout at the shoulders, tapering gradually to the head. A full neck should appear short, rather than long, yet perfectly proportioned to the head and body.

Legs and feet, (5 points)—Clean legs only, trim and neat. Legs to be short, rather than long, but not so short that the bird appears to squat.

Tail, (10 points) — Tail to be tight and close in formation, well covered by coverettes. Twelve tail feathers only. No gaps when extended or spread, but when closed, should not be over 1½-2 feathers wide. The narrower, the better.

Flights, (10 points)—Flights to be strong and broad, both primary and secondary overlapping each feather when wing extended, showing no appreciable space between tips of each adjoining feather. Tips should reach to within ¼ inch of the tail when the bird is standing, and rest on or over the tail. Secondary flights should be long and strong enough to cover the back, when the bird is at ease, avoiding the "sideboards" look. Short or narrow secondaries show a flying weakness.

Carriage, (15 points)—The bird to stand smart and erect, with full chest not too high. Squatting or crouching not desired. Birds should stand upright on straight legs nearly vertically angled, not inclined too much forward.

Condition and Color, (20 points) — Birds are to be firm of body and feather. Softness around the vent bones is an indication of poor condition. Loose and dull feathers also indicate health and condition, they should be lustrous and slick looking. Color should be clear, in any shade, or blend.

Disqualifications

1. Bull, orange, yellow, odd, or cracked eyes.
2. Any bird with feathers on the legs.
3. Stained or black beaks.
4. Red or black eye cere.
5. Split oil gland or no visible oil gland.
6. Crooked, bent, or otherwise misshapen keel.
7. Crests, or indications of topknot.
8. Any bird receiving less than 60 points by this standard.