



Official Standard of The King Pigeon

By ARTHUR SEELBINDER, Chairman American King Club Show Rules Committee

(Note by Editor. — Following is the official King Standard recently adopted by the American King Club. It was submitted by the American King Club Show Rules Committee with Arthur Seelbinder as Chairman, Wm. A. Dobling, Ralph Nolting and Robert Smith, with the following introduction and instruction to judges:)

Introduction

This show room standard of the King pigeon to be used by the Judges, is not the thoughts of any one man or small group of men. Your Committee has only been the clearing house to consolidate the thoughts and suggestions of over forty (40) experienced King breeders and exhibitors.

To Judges

A singular honor has been bestowed upon you, for your selection to judge King pigeons. A great responsibility rests on your shoulders.

Relative to the exhibitor of King pigeons of tomorrow, your guidance in helping the exhibitor plan his future breeding and exhibition of King pigeons is his success of tomorrow.

The present day, old time breeder and show room winner is affected very little by your professional service, but the future of the King, and the young breeder is your responsibility.

While at work, your observations and professional comments will influence both breeders pride and ownership, also will go a long way to help the young exhibitors. Today's King novice breeder is depending on you to lead him and build the King pigeon greater for tomorrow.

Official Standard

The King pigeon, regardless of color, is a dual purpose bird, primarily meat production. The blocky round shape fits the round dinner plate when squabs are served. (Secondly, it is an

exhibition pigeon and can be compared favorably in these two aspects with Hereford cattle which are meat producing and exhibition cattle.)

Breeders and exhibitors should keep in mind at all times that birds to be offered for exhibition, must display show qualities. Keep in mind at all times, size without station, "that is conformation," is very undesirable. Show qualities are outlined in the following standard of perfection, including the official picture of the King, to help you in making prospective selections of birds you exhibit.

Weights

Weights of the King pigeon have been and will continue to be a controversial question. It shall be the duty of the American King Club Secretary to see that all American King Clubs sanction shows, which means shows that are specially authorized by American King Club officers, district shows and annual shows and conventions; that the show secretary and judges be provided with a set of Standard King Club approved show rules and an ideal picture. Under weight birds are not to be shown. This Committee is of the opinion that no exhibitor shall have the right to demand that a bird be weighed. The judge is employed with the understanding that he is qualified to determine weights.

Old birds, 29 ounces to 36 ounces are ideal weights.

Young birds, 28 ounces to 34 ounces are ideal weights.

Any bird which is not within these weights, the judges should use their discretion, and lean heavily to determine his placement on the conformation and gracefulness in show room manners of the bird itself.

The dimensions for the Ideal King are:

Height: Eleven three quarter inches.

Width: Extremity of chest five inches.

Length: Tip of tail to chest extremity

nine and one half inches. Shorter birds with standard weights desirable.

WHITE SPECIFICATIONS AND SCALE OF POINT FOR ALL COLORS

Beak—Stout and short, but not showing Tumbler heritage, pinkish white in color. A well proportion beak wattle10

Wattles—In keeping with the size of face, smooth, powdered or frosted in color, showing no enlarged growth....3

Head.—Refer to the ideal picture to see that the head is in keeping with the size of the body; skull well rounded to blend evenly with a full neck; showing no pinch between the eye above the wattle3

Eyes—Prominent, round and bright, set approximately three-fifths forward from back of skull. The color to appear jet black, but is dark, reddish brown when in bright light.....3

Eye Cere—Perfectly round, fine in texture, as small as possible, to be visible between the eye and feathers, beet red in color4

Neck—Moderately stout or thick, to balance the broad shoulders and well rounded body of the bird, carried upright, beak as near as possible to recede from the line of the protruding breast. Where the back of the neck enters the shoulders, should be as near as possible on a line with the hocks. Cocks should show a more massive neck than hens, but neither cock or hen shall show any evidence of thinness. Gullets discouraged regardless of how small7

Breast—The breast is that part of a pigeon lying or being in front of the legs and extending to lower part of neck, but doesn't include that part of the body around the keel back of legs setting into the body. The breast should be prominent, broad and well rounded showing the wing butts. Should be carried symmetrically with an erect station of the bird; lower portion of front on line with rear keel.....10

Body—Short as possible, to be standard weight; broad enough to be a hand full across the shoulders; proportionately deep and well rounded, carrying

the fullness of body well back beyond the vent bones; in condition. Hardness of body not necessary, but should be firm and well rounded when held in both hands. You should be discouraged in showing shallow bodied birds regardless of their own merits.....12

Keel—To be as long as possible for the short body, to traverse in a rocker shape ending as close to the vent as possible; crooked or ill-shaped keels discouraged8

Birds with crooked or ill shaped keels shall not be permitted to win a first or second prize in any color.

Back—Must not be wedge shaped by tapering too quickly before reaching rump, but enough to harmonize with balance of body construction.....6

Wings—To be strong and sturdy, with good wide flight feathers joints to fit snugly to body and butts to be curved by breast feathers, laying smoothly over tail $\frac{3}{4}$ inch shorter with no visibility of ill fitting on rump when birds is calm; discourage wing tips that cross each other7

Tail—Short in proportion to a well-rounded body. Width, proportionate to the width of two normal size tail feathers; carried at an angle of approximately 15 degrees above the rump. Birds, when in show room manner, should not exhibit fan spread or drop tail as if to be used as a prop to keep it from falling over backwards 5

Twelve (12) tail feathers are the ideal number. Each tail feather less than twelve cuts two points each up to nine (9) feathers. Less than nine (9) tail feathers disqualifies the bird. Down tail birds not to place above fifth.

Shank—Stout, straight and moderately long, so as to give a bird secure foundation for erectness, beet red in color, but not to look ill-shaped, set well apart and free from feathers or stubs, clean, showing breeder ownership pride. Leg setting is one of the crowning beauties of the King pigeon, should be well balanced, the hocks should be on a line with the shoulder where the neck breaks into the back. Legs set close to each other are very much desired8

Toes—Straight and well spread to balance the activity of bird, beet red in color, showing no sign of feathers or loft inattention3

Plumage—To be pure white, free from colored feathers. Feathering to be close, but not as hard as a flying Homer's showing fine texture and gloss. Should have a little give when bird is handled, and slight fluff when displaying show conformation, so that lines are not harsh. Feathers should not be coarse or crinkled. Cocks should be slightly coarser or looser in neck feathering than hens. Moderately narrow feathering in tail preferred10

Disqualifications:

Other than red eye cere for yearlings and old whites. (Young birds can be lighter).

Visible defects of bones.

Birds that refuse to show exhibition King type, according to standard picture. When normal, and not excited, if

show manners are in question cut 10 points.

Apple in the neck.

Unkept appearance from loft neglect.

Cocks that have been caponized.

Off color in beak of whites.

Off color in feathers in whites.

Awry tails.

Ill-shaped beaks.

White at vent of colored birds.

Less than nine tail feathers.

Limitations: Ill-shaped keels—not to win a first or second prize.

Colored Kings

See preceding pages for scale of points that apply to all colors.

When judging all colored Kings, that is other than white, the judge shall observe the following: Silvers and Duns that show clay, or yellow, or brown ticking on wings and breast. Blues that show any black ticking anywhere.

Yellows, Reds and Duns that show any foreign color.

Blacks—The word black means jet black with a sheen that is not too purple or green on the neck.

Silvers, Blues that show marking of a third bar are to be discouraged.

Any color of colored birds with white at hocks.

Such birds as listed above should be barred from winning first or second prize in any class, regardless of other qualifications.

Up to the second prize, birds in any class color marking are subject to penalties of from one to 10 points.

Blues and Silvers with light color rumps permissible.

Your Committee is of the opinion that when a breeder breeds a top color of silver, blue, yellow, red, dun or black, with the other qualifications of the King standard, these colors should take a precedent over the all white bird. A man's labor in color production should be merited.

Description of the Silver King

Scale of points same as whites, for all colors.

Beak—Horn color.

Wattle—Whitish.

Eyes—Pearl, discouraging split eye.

Eye Cere—Beet red, discouraging flesh color.

Toes and Shanks—Beet red color.

Color—Clear silver on the wings, with a slightly darker silver hue on back and rump. Wings show two well defined bars running with a curved V-shape across the wing of chocolate color, discouraging brown tinge. The head should be much "darker than wings," powder, blending into the neck darker, and the lower breast lighter to match the wings if possible, with luster on neck as inconspicuous and as indefinable in color as possible. The same marking on the tip of tail as the wings V. The tail a darker color of silver than the wings.

Lighter color rump permissible.

Silver color of feathers to carry down to skin, darker under color preferred.

Visible plucking of vent cut up to 10 points.

Description of the Blue King

Beak—Bluish black.

Eyes—Orange, unbroken or not split preferred.

Eye Cere—As red as possible, discouraging pale color.

Shanks and Toes—Beet red color.

Color—A dark shade of sky blue for the wings, with slightly darker, clear shade of blue on the rump and tail. The head should be much darker blue, blending into the neck lighter, terminating into a still lighter color for the breast, to match the wings if possible, with luster on neck as inconspicuous and indefinable as possible; wings to show two well defined bars running with curved V-shape across the wing coverts of a dark bluish black color, discouraging any brown or brownish tinge in the bar color. This same marking also on the tail which should be a dark color, similar to the breast coloring.

Light colored rumps permissible.

Blue color of feathers to carry down to skin, darker under color preferred.

Visible plucking of vents cut up to 10 points.

Description of the Red King

Beak—Horn color, clear, not streaked.

Eyes—Orange, unbroken or not split preferred.

Eye Cere—Beet red, discouraging flesh appearance.

Shanks and Toes—Beet red.

Color—As dark a red as possible not showing any foreign color or ticking on surface, red plumage to carry down as close to the skin with richness in color as possible.

Keep your smutty color birds at home.

Visible plucking of vents cut up to 10 points.

Description of the Yellow King

Beak—Horn color, clear, not streaked.

Eyes—Orange, unbroken or not split preferred.

Eye Cere—Beet red, discouraging any flesh color.

Shanks and Toes—Beet red.

Color—As dark yellow as possible, not showing any foreign color or ticking on surfaces. Yellow plumage to carry down as close to the skin, with richness in color as possible.

Keep your smutty color birds at home.

Visible plucking of vents cut up to 10 points.

Description of the Black King

Beak—Natural black, with luster.

Eyes—Orange, unbroken or not split preferred.

Eye Cere—Beet red, tinge toward flesh discouraged.

Shanks and Toes—Beet red.

Color—Solid jet black, no rust visible to the eye when bird is standing for show room manners. The gullet, neck and upper part of breast to show a brighter color of black sheen that is indescribable in shade.

Feather color to carry black down to skin, as dark as possible.

Visible plucking of vent cut up to 10 points.

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SELL OR TRADE

Pigeons. — Bought, sold or exchanged. Write your wants. — Pat's Bird Store, 1315 W. Huron St., Chicago 22, Ill. (856)

Bantams and Pigeons. — Show type Modenas, all breeds, sell, trade. — Billfred Pigeon Loft, 814 S. Brooks Rd., Muskegon, Mich. (456-656)

English Show Homers for good show type Carneaux. Want any color, but Whites. — Ivan Jones, 718 Stanton Ave., Springfield, Ohio. (456-656)

Trade. — Two Unique Pigeon Timers for two pairs Show Turbits, Yellow Saddies only. — Andrew Smith, Jr., 3517 Moss Side Ave., Richmond, Va. (456)

Lahores, Fantails, Pensom Rollers reasonable. Trade for antique dishes, mostly plates. — Ben Wiazek, 112 Lacoma, Des Moines 15, Iowa. (755-656)

Three 1955 Hatched, Show Type Powdered Silver, Fantail cocks, for 3 large show type Carneaux, cocks of 1955 hatch. — O. H. Fulton, Route 4, Box 117, Salem, Va. (256-456)

Maltese, Show Kings, Ancients. — Sale or trade. Also wanted 1000 good pigeons. No culls for any price. In first letter give breed, sex, and price. — Peter Andrekus, 7719 So. Major, Oaklawn, Ill. (456-656)

SUPPLIES

Carolina Long Leaf Pine Needles. — \$1.50 per bale. "Arcadia Health Grit," Famed for results. \$2.75 per hundred. — Arcadia Pigeon Plant, Acme, N. C. (356-556)

Printing Special! 50 8½x11, 50 8½x5½ letterheads, 100 envelopes, 5 lines \$3. Sample dime. State breed. — R. Cook, 818 West Gift, Peoria, Ill. (156-456)

Complete Blueprints of My Pigeon Loft as illustrated on cover page March 1955 issue, including all detail drawings for \$4. — Anton Steinke, 633 Clarks Lane, Winona, Minn. (356-556)

Pigeon Fanciers. — Clubs in 39 states order printed letterheads, envelopes, membership cards from me. Cut booklet dime. — Earl E. Brash, Jamestown, N. Dak. (456-656)

Tobacco Stems. — The finest grade on the market for pigeon nesting \$3 a 100 lbs. course tobacco dust \$3 a 100 lbs. F. O. B. Check with order. — Wm. Chrzanowski, 2220 E. Canfield Ave., Detroit 7, Mich. (256-456)

Make Your Own Pigeon Grit. — Save \$2 to \$4 per 100 lbs. We furnish everything but the sand and oyster shell. 5-lb. package makes 50 lbs. grit. 90c plus postage. We will ship C.O.D.—Foy Pigeon Farms, Box PJ-6, Clin'oon, Iowa. (tf)

WANTED

Wanted. — A quality pair of Kasaner Shaker-Neck Tumblers. — David B. Dunning, Dawson Springs, Ky. (456)

Wanted. — Contact with anyone breeding pure Swiss Goldkragen Pigeons. — Robert Beaver, Jr., Farmersville, Texas. (456-656)

Wanted. — Jacobins, Fantails, Frillbacks, etc. Any quantity, give best price. — Steve Otvos, Seanor, Pa. (456-656)

Wanted. — Yellow and Red Carneaux. Silver and Yellow Kings, young or old birds. State price. — Ira Jones, 724 Jewell, Danville, Ill. (456)

Wanted. — Pigeons, any amount, any breed. Give description, amount and price. — Leon Flakewicz, 5436 Hilltop Ave., Baltimore 6, Maryland. (356-556)

Breeder's Directory

ECONOMICAL AND EFFECTIVE YEAR-ROUND ADVERTISING

Insertion of your name and address under the name of the variety of pigeons you breed, \$6.00 for 6 consecutive insertions; \$8.00 for 12 consecutive insertions. Additional words at classified ad rates. Cash with order. Please mail your listing to reach this magazine on or before the 15th of the month of publication.

BLENDO PIGEONS

(Cross Breed. Less inbreeding. Healthy. Large squabs.) E. L. Tarkenton, Hobby Pigeon Lofts, Wilson, N. C. (856)

ENGLISH SHOW HOMERS

Ivan Jones, 718 Stanton Ave., Springfield, Ohio. (556)

FANTAILS

W. F. Hoffman, 149 S. Midler Ave., Syracuse 6, N. Y. (956)
(Whites and Blacks.) — John Dietz, 225 C St., Lincoln, Nebr. (357)
John McDevitt, 4911 W. 113th St., Inglewood 2, Calif. (556)

FRENCH GROS MONDAINES

Elmer Skoog, Box 284, Lyford, Texas. (257)

HUNGARIANS

G. W. Barkley, Route 2, Box 528, Brownsville, Texas. (1056)

KINGS

(Black-Show) Dr. R. M. Patterson, Mayville, Route 2, N. Y. (556)
(White, Show and Utility) Jack L. Butler, 1700 Ohio Ave., Richmond 3, Calif. (756)

LAHORES

Fred F. Berry, Box 158, Middletown, Calif. (157)

Wanted. — Pure bred Sion Racers with best pedigree obtainable. Will not be interested in any other. — Reeder McKandles, 80 Fontenelle S. E., Grand Rapids, Mich. (456)

Wanted. — One pair Giant Runts, three pound birds and 38-inch spread or over in Yellow or deep Reds, three year old birds. — Abe Friesen, Fort Route, Dodge City, Kans. (456)

Wanted. — Old copies American Pigeon Keeper; Pigeon News, Cook's Doveland Picture; Pigeon and Poultry Literature.

Report on Round Worm Infection

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ten inches to offer the breeders a wider place to tread and increase the possibility of more fertile eggs.

Moral of the story: Keep your lofts as well ventilated as possible—without drafts. Don't allow droppings to pile up on the floor but rake or hoe them out to keep the floor as dry as possible.

Official Standard of the King Pigeon

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Description of Dun King

Beak—Horn color, not streaked.
Eyes—Orange, unbroken, not split preferred.

Eye Cere—Beet red. Discourage any other color.

Shanks and Toes—Beet red.

Color—A dilute of black, dark chocolate, clear and free from ticking

RACING HOMERS

(Bred from A. U. Winners, Chicago, Concourse. Will sell birds from race report sheet, young and old, by mail.) Henry Kruszka & Son, 4900 S. Laramie Ave., Chicago 38, Ill. (956)

ROLLERS

(Almonds) George Stan, Box 102, Pompano Beach, Fla. (157)

STRASSERS

Dr. J. A. Polley, 18917 Stanton Ave., Castro Valley, Calif. (1056)
(Red) Glen Crouch, Laverne, Okla. (456)
Dr. Wallace M. Pearson, Box 722, Kirksville, Mo. (1156)
William Hansen, 2350 West 134th Ave., San Leandro, Calif. (656)

TRUMPETERS

(Bokhara, all colors. Also Parlor umblers) Joe Brindamour, Box 502, Dunellen, N. J. (1256)
(Bokhara) Yellowstone Valley Lofts, Forsyth, Mont. (157)

WEST OF ENGLAND TUMBLERS

(Reds and Yellows) Ralph Aldridge, 1103 Mulberry, Porterville, Calif. (956)
(Baldheads and Cleanlegs) John Falkowski, 38 Vinton St., South Boston 27, Mass. (1156)

— Oliver G. Vrana, Route 2, Box 340, St. Charles, Missouri. (1155-456)

Large or Small stamp and coin collections, United States and Foreign, also old dime novels. Have Fancy Pigeons to trade for the above. Write Jack Strobel, Watertown, Wis. (456)

Pigeons Wanted. — Show type White Kings, Show Type Silver Kings, French Gros Mondains in lots of 5 to 25 pairs. Must be at least six month old, no youngsters. I furnish shipping coops and pay express charges. Write Z. G. McKay, Lyons, Iowa. (356-556)

or clay feathers. Color to carry down to skin, as dark as possible.

Visible plucking of vent cut 10 points.

Description of A.O.C. Kings

The letters A.O.C. apply to any colored King that does not have a classified color in this King standard, covering such as blue Checks, red Checks, red Bars, Mealies, Splashes, etc. With this disqualification Runt, Mondaine and Homer head or face, coarse eye cere, poor station and conformation.

An A.O.C. loses ten (10) points on color, competing against any standard color for specials.

If your A.O.C. is not a good King, keep him at home. But keep working harder to breed a good King any color.

Advertise surplus birds in APJ.