

# DEVON, CORNWALL, WEST SOMERSET, CONTINENTAL F.C.

## RULES UPDATED DECEMBER 2020

1. The name of the club shall be the DEVON, CORNWALL, WEST SOMERSET, CONTINENTAL FLYING CLUB (hereafter referred to in these rules as DCWSCFC) with its headquarters being at the current secretary's address.

2. The purpose of DCWSCFC shall be to promote and organise pigeon racing, and pigeon racing related functions for its members to participate in.

2.1 DCWSCFC is a non profit making organisation and any assets or profits will be used for purposes of pigeon racing and the promotion of pigeon racing in the local community; and pigeon related activities for its members such as, but limited to, organising pigeon shows, social gatherings and pigeon related events.

3. Anyone whose pigeon loft is situated within the following areas shall be eligible to apply for membership of DCWSCFC:-

THE COUNTY OF CORNWALL, THE COUNTY OF DEVON, TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL, TA5, TA6, TA7, POSTAL AREAS OF BOTH WEST SOMERSET DISTRICT COUNCIL, THE SOUTH AREA OF SEDGEMOOR DISTRICT COUNCIL.

3.1 If there is a dispute as to whether an applicant is within these areas it will be the responsibility of to produce the Council Tax or Business Rates Bill for the relevant address, where the applicant's loft is located. The committee at its discretion may decide its representative will visit the loft location for verification purposes.

3.2 The committee's decision is final in any dispute as to whether an applicant is accepted as a member of the club and shall have to give no reason for refusing any application.

3.3 If any member wishes to amend the boundaries of the DCWSCFC they must put a proposal to the annual general meeting, or a special general meeting called specifically for the purpose. For the proposal to carry, two thirds of those present must vote in favour of the proposal.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

4. The annual subscription for full members shall be £39 in the 2021 season, and shall increase by £1 for every subsequent season. The Annual General meeting shall have the power to increase by more £1 on any given season if it feels necessary for the club's financial wellbeing.

4.1 If anyone wishes to remove the annual £1 increment they must put a proposition to change the rule at the AGM and two thirds of those present must vote in favour for the motion for it to be carried.

4.2 Any new applicant and all current members by paying their annual subscription agree to accept and abide by the rules of the club.

4.3 DCWSCFC will have Associate members. To become an Associate member, applications must be made in a similar manner to someone applying to be a full member and the club will have the right to turn an application down without giving reason. To become an associate member the following criteria must be met: -

- a) All associate member's lofts are outside the boundaries of DCWSCFC (rule 3).
- b) They shall pay a reduced subscription, in 2021 season £32 and this shall increase each year by £1 in line with rule 4.2.
- c) Associate members may attend meetings but have no voting rights.
- d) They can send their birds to all DCWSCFC races, but they will be classed as trainers and not be able to compete in any DCWSCFC races or specials.
- e) Any person whose loft is within the boundaries of DCWSCFC (as listed in rule 3) can not apply to be an Associate member, any such person can apply to become a 'Full member'

5 With the exception of the Secretary all officers must be members of the DCWSCFC.

6 There shall be an annual general meeting (AGM) held once a year. The date and time of the AGM will be posted on the DCWSCFC web site which is <http://www.dcwsflyingclub.com/> ; and on the bottom of all race entry sheets issued by the club. The business to be conducted shall be the adoption of accounts, election of Officers, the consideration of any alterations of rules of DCWSCFC and any general business of DCWSCFC.

7 At any general or special meeting of the club there must be a quorum of members present at the commencement of the meeting of at least ten members or 10% of the membership at that time whichever is the lesser, (not including associate members). The meeting cannot proceed without one.

8 At any meeting where a vote is taken, the result will be decided by simple majority (except where specified differently in these rules).

9 Any member wishing to alter or add to the rules may propose such amendment or addition giving not less than 28 days' notice in writing to the Secretary prior to the AGM. Such notice shall specify the alteration or addition to the rules. Any such proposal to amend the rule shall be posted on the club website at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

10 DCWSCFC welcomes applications for membership from within our boundary and will ensure all applicants receive the same consideration, regardless of gender, age, marital status, race or origin, colour, disability, sexual orientation.

11 All applications to join DCWSCFC shall be in writing to the Secretary with confirmation that the applicant will accept and abide by the rules of DCWSCFC and that they will access the DCWSCFC website to see all notifications regarding the AGM and news updates and understand that this and email, if the member has an email account, will be the method the club will use to communicate with members. The application will be circulated to the committee members of the DCWSCFC and a simple majority vote of officers shall decide on the application. It shall be the member's responsibility to download from the website the necessary forms required to race their birds.

12 DCWSCFC shall have a banking account and / or a building society account and / or a Post Office Account or an equivalent account; where possible all payments shall be made by cheque signed by two Officers of the Club one of whom shall be the Secretary/Treasurer.

13 The Chairman at her/his discretion may communicate with each member of the committee by 'phone or e mail, on any matter that requires an urgent decision of the committee. Once the Chairman has an overall consensus the chairman may proceed as agreed by the majority. The Chairman must inform the committee by e mail of the majority position and the decisions made as a result within 7 days of making any decision.

14 A copy of the club rules shall be posted on the club website

15 At any committee meeting of the club there must be a quorum of committee members present at the commencement of the meeting totaling at least four, not including the Secretary. The meeting cannot commence without a quorum.

16 DCWSCFC shall have several marking stations designated by the Committee of the club. The Committee shall have the power to approve or reject any application to run a marking station such decision shall be made by majority vote. Any such application shall be in writing submitted by the prospective I/C or marking station representative; with reasons as to why a new marking station should be approved and providing details of the facilities available and the name of the person who will be the 'I/C' and if different the name of the person who will be the committee representative for the marking station.

17 If any such application is rejected the club shall not have to give a reason for the rejection. The Officers may accept an application with certain conditions, for example it may ask the 'new' marking station to deliver their birds to a pre-arranged pick up point to transfer marked race birds to the DCWSCFC transporter.

18 If during the racing season a marking station becomes uneconomic for the club (or if prior to the season this becomes apparent) through a lack of members using its facility, any member of the committee (including the Chairman) shall refer their concern to the Chairman. The Chairman shall have the power to call a meeting of the committee or use the powers conferred on him to discuss the possible closure of the marking station. If the committee decide that a marking station should close, the Chairman shall take the necessary steps to close the station immediately. Those members who had used it in any of the 4 weeks in the current season prior to it being closed will be informed of their nearest marking station.

## RACE MARKING

19 Any member, Full or Associate, sending Trainers must provide to the marking station they use, a race sheet with all birds listed being sent, stating ring number, colour and sex and must carry a race rubber to the race, unless they carry an E.T.S. ring, failure to do so will result in their birds being turned away'.

20 The counterfoil of the rubber ring placed on race pigeons must be sealed in an envelope for each individual member not using ETS immediately after marking. And ETS sheets/race sheets must be kept stored securely by the I/C. The I/C must complete a summary sheet with details of each 'loft' the amount of birds for each individual member and the cost of 50p. £1 and £5 noms for each individual member, with a summary total for each. At the end of race marking, the I/C shall place in an envelope all sheets/envelopes for each loft sent including non-members and the completed summary sheet. The I/C shall seal the envelope and sign and date over the seal flap of the envelope. The envelope to be passed to the transporter driver when the driver collects the birds. Each marking station (I/C) when sending in their result will send a cheque for the total amount of birdage and noms and any specials for the race result. If a marking station has no result to send but sent birds and has a payment to be made, the marking station will send their payment in as if they had a race result. If there is an underpayment the marking station will send the following week with their next return a separate cheque to cover the error.

The result for any race will not be published until payment has been received from every marking station, in such event the Secretary will email members to tell them the reason for the result delay specifying the marking station that failed to make payment.

21 The result of each race shall be posted on the club website and the Secretary shall email the result to each member who supplies an e mail address. Full ring details of birds winning prizes must be shown in the result of each race including actual flying times and velocities.

22 For National Flying Club (referred to as NFC) races where duplication of race entry is permitted, members must provide on the day of marking at the NFC marking station their duplication sheet. Entries will only be accepted on official club race sheets.  
NB when the national marking station closes no further duplicated entries can be accepted by the club.

23 Club races shall close at 220 yards per minute; for NFC duplication races, hours of darkness and the race closure, will be the same as the NFC.

24 When clocks / ETS systems are read, each marking station will post to the Secretary by first class post no later than two working days after the closure of each race, each member's times, including race rubbers, clock dials/print outs and ETS arrival sheets e.g. race closed Saturday, posted no later than last post Tuesday, race closed Sunday no later than last post Wednesday etc.

25 Each marking station on marking night may charge an admin fee of no more than £1 per loft sending on the night, to cover the administration cost of running the station e.g. postage etc. The marking station may keep this fee and it shall not be recorded on the summary sheet returned to the Secretary.

Signed

Chairman

Date

Secretary

Date

