



**THE CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS, WRITTEN STANDARD, COLOR  
GUIDELINE, SHOW STANDARD, AND CODE OF  
SPORTSMANSHIP OF THE AMERICAN SHOW RACER  
ASSOCIATION**

**August 2009 Edition**

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**President**

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**Secretary/Treasurer**



## Code of Sportsmanship



**Purpose:** The American Show-Racer Association is dedicated to promoting the hobby of purebred show-racers according to the constitution, by-laws and show standards adopted by the ASRA. Founded in 1952. Shared values of those involved in the hobby include principles of sportsmanship. Many believe these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our hobby has thrived for over fifty years. Therefore the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our hobby, this code is presented.

- Fanciers respect the history, traditions and integrity of the hobby of purebred pigeons.
- Fanciers commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- Fanciers refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the hobby of purebred pigeons by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
- The fancier judge judges only on the merits of the bird and considers no other factors.
- The fancier judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
- The fancier exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judges placements could be based on something other than the merits of the bird.
- The fancier exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
- The fancier respects the ASRA bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the hobby of purebred pigeons.
- Fanciers find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
- Fanciers welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the hobby.
- Fanciers will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
- Fanciers are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
- Fanciers spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
- Fanciers always consider as paramount the welfare of their pigeons.
- Fanciers refuse to embarrass the hobby, the American Show-Racer Association, or themselves while taking part in the hobby.

## **Article I-Name**

The name of the organization shall be the American Show Racer Association and it shall be referred to herein as the ASRA.

## **Article II-Purpose**

- A. To promote the breeding and improvement of the American Show Racer pigeon according to the standard adopted by the ASRA.
- B. To promote and encourage fair competition of the American Show Racer through shows and to establish a list of qualified judges for these events.
- D. To maintain an affiliation with the National Pigeon Association.
- C. To fulfill these aims in a spirit of fellowship and sportsmanship.

## **Article III-Membership**

- A. Membership in the ASRA shall be open to any person of good character who is interested in the breeding of American Show Racers and agrees to abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of the ASRA.
- B. Membership shall be on a year-to-year basis. Dues must be paid by January 31 of each year to hold membership for that year. On February 1 of each year all persons who have not renewed their membership will be dropped and forfeit any voting or association benefits.
- C. Owning or breeding American Show Racers is not a condition of membership.
- D. Application for membership must be made in writing to the Secretary/Treasurer, accompanied by the annual dues in effect for that year. Application may be submitted at any time. Any new member joining after November 1 will be paid in full for the following year.
- E. Family membership in the ASRA shall be available for two or more immediate family members living at the same address. It is available to such members as husband and wife, father and son, etc. A family membership includes only one vote, one ASRA Bulletin and associated literature/mailings.
- F. Junior memberships are available for individuals 17 years of age and younger.
- G. Foreign memberships are available for individuals in foreign countries other than the United States and Canada. They can remain members-at-large or decide to align with a District of their choosing.
- H. Local clubs may affiliate with the ASRA. No Affiliated club will have voting privileges.

## **Article IV-Officers**

A. The officers of the ASRA shall consist of President, Eastern Vice President (Eastern Region), Western Vice President (Western Region), Secretary/Treasurer, District Directors, Bulletin Editor, Band Director, Publicity Director, Election Commissioner, Junior Director and Historian.

**President-**The duties of the President shall be to maintain general supervision over the affairs of the ASRA and see that all officers and committees function appropriately therein. He/she shall appoint members to fill vacancies of office due to death or resignation. He/she shall preside at all official meetings of the ASRA.

**East/West Vice-Presidents-** The Vice-President shall serve as a liaison between the President and the District Directors of his/her region to aid them in the discharge of their respective offices. In the absence of the President from any meeting or in the event he/she is unable to act, the Vice-President from the region in which the meeting is held shall act on behalf of the President. In the event of death or resignation of the President, the Secretary/Treasurer and District Directors shall elect (by majority vote) one of the Vice-Presidents to fulfill the unexpired term.

**Secretary /Treasurer-** The duties of the Secretary/Treasurer shall be to conduct all correspondence of the Association,

keep minutes at all meetings and have charge of all books and papers of the organization. He/she shall be responsible for keeping accurate records of all funds received and paid out and shall submit an annual report of same to the officers and membership. Shall establish a Budget and Financial Statement and print it in the January/February issue of the Bulletin each year. The Secretary (Treasurer shall conduct all elections of officers and all propositions concerning the ASRA. All elections will be conducted as described in the Article regarding the Election of Officers. The Secretary/Treasurer shall notify the appropriate District Director and the Bulletin Editor of all new members.

**District Director**-District Directors shall carry out duties assigned to them by the ASRA President. They shall attempt to stimulate interest in the Show Racer and the ASRA in their District. They shall conduct a District Meet in conjunction with another show or by itself. Such meet shall be sanctioned with approval by the ASRA President. District Directors also make constructive recommendations to the President which they believe will improve the service of the ASRA. They shall make recommendations for members to become qualified Show Racer judges.

**Bulletin Editor**-The ASRA Bulletin Editor shall prepare and mail Bulletins to the entire membership, thus keeping them informed of all ASRA activities. He/she shall work closely with the Secretary/Treasurer in discharging all activities toward the betterment of the ASRA. This involves establishing and maintaining an accurate and current membership list so that all members are informed of issues and events affecting the breed and the organization. The ASRA will pay up to \$300.00 per ASRA Bulletin, six times a year.

**Band Director**-The ASRA Band Director shall order from the manufacturer, be custodian and dispense of all association bands. He/she will keep a strict account of the total number of bands received from the manufacturer and sold on order to individuals, as well as the series numbers of each band sold to each purchaser, including name and address. All band orders must be sold in increments of 25 or more, with cash, check or money order accompanying the order. No bands may be returned for refund.

**Publicity Director**-The Publicity Director shall write news articles and generally promote the ASRA and the breeding of Show Racers in leading pigeon journals and magazines.

**Election Commissioner**-The Election Commissioner honestly and accurately receives and counts the votes in all elections of officers and propositions. He/she reports these results directly to the Secretary/Treasurer.

**Junior Director**-The Junior Director shall be a regular member who will act as a focal point in creating promotions and programs to encourage junior members and Novice breeders to raise and show American Show Racers. He/she will work closely with the District Directors, the NPA and the Pigeon Center of the Americas.

**Historian**-The Historian shall keep records of club events and activities including historical and pictorial data that can be used to promote and build the association and its membership.

B. The voting officers of the ASRA shall include the President, Eastern Vice-President, Western Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer and District Directors.

C. Each officer is to be elected for a period of two (2) years.

#### **Article V-Methods of Election**

A. The Secretary/Treasurer shall call by notice in the May/June ASRA Bulletin for nominations of officers from members in good standing. Members in good standing for the previous and present year are eligible for nomination. **Nominations shall close on July 1.**

B. Upon receiving names for the nomination, the Secretary/ Treasurer shall notify nominated persons by mail and ask for permission to place their name on the election ballot.

C. The ASRA Bulletin for July/August shall be mailed to members in good standing with a ballot listing names of persons nominated and accepted for each office. Each member shall vote for one person for each office. District Directors are to be elected by their respective districts. Voting ballots will be as an insert, not part, of said Bulletin. Ballot will be of ASRA official stock and therefore, bearing the official ASRA embossed seal for authenticity.

D. All marked ballots shall be mailed to the Election Commissioner by October 1. A majority vote of the members voting elects an officer. The Election Commissioner reports the results to the Secretary/ Treasurer by mail, including all ballots received in his report. Election results shall be published in the ASRA Bulletin, November/December issue. Newly elected officers shall take office January 1. Retiring officers will convey any materials, books and papers that belong to the Association to the new officers as soon as results are published in the Bulletin. In the case of ties the

members tied for the elected position have 2 weeks to agree on who should accept the elected position. The President or a member designated by the President shall preside over this matter. If a decision can not be made in the allotted 2 weeks the President and the 2 Vice Presidents will decide who will hold the elected office by a majority vote.

#### **Article VI-Districts**

The American Show Racer, Association shall be divided into Districts as defined in the Bylaws. One District Director shall be elected to each District.

#### **Article VII-Standard of the Breed**

A. The Standard of the Show Racer shall be established by the members of the ASRA and registered with the National Pigeon Association.

B. All Show Racers, at Sanctioned ASRA shows, will be judged in accordance to the parameters established in the Standard.

C. Any proposal for change in the Standard must be conveyed in writing to the Secretary/Treasurer. He/she will prepare the proposal for a vote of the officers of the ASRA. If proposal is approved by a majority vote of the voting officers, it will then be voted upon by the entire membership. A 2/3 (two-thirds) majority of the members voting will affirm the proposal as a portion of the Standard. Any change must meet the requirements and rules of approval for standard changes set by the National Pigeon Association. Any change must comply with Article IX B.

#### **Article VIII -Meetings**

A. A meeting shall be held at each Annual/National Show.

B. The minimum number and composition of a quorum at a National Annual meeting shall include at least one (1) officer and/or District Director and ten (10) members, all of whom must be in attendance. This quorum is required to hold an official Annual Meeting of the ASRA.

C. Special meetings may be called by the President, as he/she may deem necessary. The provision stipulated in Article VIII, B, shall be enforced at such meetings.

D. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the guide for all meetings.

E. Any business or motion conducted and passed at any meeting shall not become binding on the ASRA. The passed motion must be presented for vote by the entire membership in order to be approved as an official rule of the ASRA.

F. Due to the large geographical area covered by the ASRA it is impractical to expect a large representation of the members to be present at all Annual Meetings. Consequently, these meetings will serve as a catalyst to discuss and prepare motions. Any motions approved at the Annual Meeting are in effect presented to the Secretary/Treasurer. They are handled according to Article IX.

#### **Article IX-Amendments to the Constitution**

A. Any proposed amendment to the Constitution must be made in writing to the Secretary/Treasurer, who will prepare such amendment for vote by the voting officers. If the amendment is approved by the majority of the voting officers, the amendment will be presented for a vote by the entire membership. A 2/3 (two-thirds) majority vote of the members voting will confirm a Constitutional Amendment. All proposed amendments must be voted upon within six (6) months after the proposal is made.

B. Any proposal put to a vote of the membership must appear in two consecutive Bulletins. The first would publish the present Article or Bylaw along with the proposal change. The second would print the present Article or Bylaw along with the proposed change, member's comments to the Bulletin Editor and also be accompanied by a ballot to vote.

#### **Bylaws**

Bylaws of the American Show Racer Association shall be made or changed by following Article VIII (F) or Article IX (A) of the Constitution. Changes in Bylaws must not be in violation of the Constitution. A 2/3 (two-thirds) majority of

the members voting will pass a proposed bylaw or change.

### **Bylaw Number 1-Membership Dues**

Dues shall be determined by recommendation of a majority of the voting officers and subsequently passed by a 2/3 (two-thirds) majority vote of the members voting on this issue. Dues shall remain at the same amount until the above routine is repeated. Current dues are as follows:

Junior ~membership: \$10.00 Regular Membership: \$20.00 Family Membership: \$25.00 Foreign Membership: \$25.00  
Local Club Affiliation: \$25.00

In an effort to promote the breeding and showing of American Show Racers, the name, address, city, state and zip code of any exhibitor NOT A MEMBER of the ASRA is to be sent to the Bulletin Editor so a sample Bulletin can be sent to that individual in an effort to gain their membership. Directors are asked to appoint someone to collect dues at the District Meets and Sanctioned Shows, encourage memberships and follow-up on membership renewals.

### **Bylaw Number 2-Judges**

A. The following method of selecting qualified judges of American Show Racers being exhibited at National, District and Sanctioned shows will be used:

1. According to the purposes of the ASRA, a list of qualified judges shall be established.
2. The persons selected for this list must be able to judge American Show Racers according to the official Standard of the American Show Racer Association.
3. They must be persons of the highest reputation.
4. They should have exhibited the capacity to breed and identify outstanding American Show Racers.

B. Any member who wishes to establish a person on the ASRA list of qualified judges will notify, in writing, the Director of the District in which the nominated judge resides. The Director will then conduct, to the best of his ability, an investigation into the qualifications of this nominee. The Director will notify this person of the investigation and ask his/her permission and willingness to be added to the list of qualified judges. When the Director is satisfied that said person will make a qualified judge, he will submit his/her name to the President and Secretary/Treasurer, stating the qualifications of this prospective judge. Upon receiving this name, the President and Secretary/Treasurer will to the best of their ability, establish if this person will serve to the advantage of the ASRA. When President and Secretary/Treasurer are certain this person will qualify, a vote of the voting officers of the ASRA will be conducted. An affirmative vote of a majority of the voting officers will qualify this person as a judge of the ASRA.

### **Bylaw Number 3-Annual Show (The National)**

The ASRA shall hold an Annual Show in conjunction with the National Pigeon Association Show.

### **Bylaw Number 4-Show Placing At Annual Meet**

All classes are to be judged one place past half of the total number of entries in the class at the NPA/ASRA Annual Meet. Example: In a class 20 birds deep, 11 birds will be placed.

### **Bylaw Number 5-Member Awards**

A. **Master Service Award**-This award is the highest honor that the ASRA can present to any member. The award would not be expected to be given out often. It is for members that have made an outstanding and ongoing overall contribution to the ASRA for many years. They may never have raised a champion, but they are a joy to be around and are always working for the betterment of the ASRA. The requirements are:

1. Must be an ASRA member in good standing, having participated actively for many years with an impeccable reputation within the hobby for honesty and integrity.
2. Must have been a member of the ASRA for at least twenty years.

3. Must have served the ASRA in many ways such as serving as an officer, promoting the ASRA, recruiting new members, helping Novice breeders, involved and active in making our shows successful, helping others to get started, become successful and stay interested and growing in the breed and interest in it
4. Does not have to be a Master Breeder.
5. No more than two such awards may be made in any calendar year.
6. Nominations for this award shall be sent to the President and the Vice-President responsible for the District by the Director of the District in which the nominee resides. The District Director should first be sure that there is good support for the nomination within the District.
7. The voting officers will act as a committee to evaluate the nomination. A form is available to help with the evaluation. Ideally, the award would be kept quiet until approved by a majority vote of the officers.
8. Once approved by the voting officers, the nomination will be put before the membership for a vote. Requires a 2/3-majority vote to make the award.
9. This vote is not subject to the two Bulletin rule in Article IX B. 10. Any recipient of the award will be announced at the Annual Meeting or other appropriate event with the presentation of an engraved plaque.

#### **B. Master Breeder Award**

1. The ASRA shall have a working Master Breeder Award Committee with a Chair and at least two other members appointed by the President.
2. This committee will consider all Master Breeder Award applications as to their validity and fulfillment of requirements.
3. Applications with requirements are obtained through the Secretary/Treasurer and may be printed occasionally in the ASRA Bulletin.
4. Committee members are not subject to any specific length of office.
5. This award is not necessarily an annual award. It is only presented when an applicant meeting the requirements is approved by the committee.
6. Qualifications for ASRA Master Breeder Award consideration are that the applicant must:
  - A. Have been a member of the ASRA for at least five (5) years prior to filing.
  - B. Have bred American Show Racers for at least ten years.
  - C. Have had a good show record for five consecutive years. Some Champions and Special (Best Of Color) winners would be expected. Special consideration to be given to wins outside applicant's local area.
  - D. Not claim credit for birds he/she did not breed.
  - E. Have birds, which have won first, second or third in an exhibition sponsored by a National, Specialty or local club approved by the ASRA.
  - F. Submit his/her show records on official ASRA forms to the Master Breeder Committee Chairperson who will review them with the committee.
7. It is the intent of the Committee to bestow this high award to those individuals who are truly Master Breeders of American Show Racers.

#### **C. Outstanding Member Award**

1. The ASRA Outstanding Member Award is presented every election year to the fancier who, as voted by the

membership, was an inspiration to his fellow fanciers and a leader who has won the greatest respect and esteem of his fellow fanciers in the sport

2. Nominations for this award should be sent to the Secretary/ Treasurer on or before July 1.
3. Nominees for this award will be placed on the election ballot in the July/August issue of the ASRA Bulletin.
4. The recipient of this award will be announced at the ASRA Annual Meeting in January with the presentation of an engraved plaque.

**D. Certificate Of Merit-** This award can be given often and is intended to recognize and thank members that make a significant contribution to the Association. The qualifications are:

1. Must be an ASRA member in good standing and an active participant for at least the past year.
2. Must have been a member of the ASRA for at least one year.
3. Any member can nominate another member to the District Director. If the District Director approves the award, a certificate or other appropriate form of recognition will be presented.
4. It is recommended that the certificate or other appropriate award be prepared by the District Director and signed by the President.

#### **Bylaw Number 6 – Annual Band Pool Rules**

- A. The ASRA Annual Band Pool is to be held in conjunction with the ASRA Annual Meet at the NPA Grand National Show.
- B. An exhibitor must be an ASRA member (dues paid) to compete in the ASRA Band Pool.
- C. Only ASRA bands will be accepted, with exhibitor entering as many numbers as desired.
- D. Selected band numbers cost \$2.00 each. Band numbers and money must be sent to Band Pool Chairman by May 30.
- E. No additions, substitutions or changes for any reason after the deadline.
- F. Band pool money will be prorated on the first and second band pool birds placing in each of the young bird classes. In cases where no band pool birds are in a certain class, the money will be distributed to those classes that have band pool birds.
- G. In using this method, the band pool winners will be decided automatically during the regular judging.

#### **Bylaw Number 7-Certificate of Award**

- A. The Certificate of Award will be presented only at the ASRA Annual Meet, District Meets and Sanctioned Meets when approved by the President and District Director of the ASRA.
- B. There must be at least twenty (20) birds in the color class, with at least three (3) exhibitors competing for a certificate to be awarded.
- C. To be eligible, a young bird must be exhibited by his/her breeder.
- D. All award winning birds must be of the standard color and markings as recognized by the ASRA Standard.
- E. The ASRA Annual Meet, District Meets and Sanctioned Meets are automatically award winning shows. Lawn shows or one day young bird shows, county and state fairs, are not recognized.
- F. Judge must be an ASRA approved judge of American Show Racers.



G. Certificate of Award must be completed by the ASRA Secretary/Treasurer or District Director. This officer will make a complete list of the birds eligible for Certificates of Award with all necessary information, including a complete show report.

H. The Secretary/Treasurer will evaluate all information carefully to ensure that all rules are complied with and that the bird is indeed worthy of the award.

I. Sample: Blue Bar Color Class (minimum 20 birds and 3 exhibitors)

Young Hens	6
Young Cocks	8
Old Hens	3
<u>Old Cocks</u>	<u>3</u>
Total	20

**Bylaw Number 8--Show Reports**

A. The NPA/ASRA Annual Show, District Meets and Sanctioned Shows are published during the year, as available, in the ASRA Bulletin on a first come, first serve basis. All show report information should be complete prior to sending to the Bulletin Editor.

B. The show report should include: Name of show, dates, total number of birds, judge(s), all exhibitors and number of birds in each age/sex/color class. Only the first three places in each age/sex/color class should be listed. List Champion, Reserve Champion, Best Opposite Sex, Best Old Bird, Best Young Bird, Best Young Hen, Best Young Cock, Best Old Hen, and Best Old Cock and Color Class winners. This information should be sent to the Bulletin Editor within thirty days of the show date.

C. Group the four age/sex/color classes under one color heading as this eliminates confusion in making the report quick and easy reference material. An example of how this might be done is as follows:

<b><u>Blue Bars (24.)</u> Young Hens (7)</b>		<b>Young Cocks (8)</b>		<b>Old Hens (4)</b>		<b>Old Cocks (5)</b>	
1. Bruning	1492	1. Hamilton	890	1. Trane	1477	1. Child	826
2. Bronner	508	2. Ognibene	1316	2. Motzkus	103	2. Hodson	319
3. Alpine Loft	754	3. Noeska	1025	3. Rice	909	3. Schlieper	1465

D. Please do not use class numbers in show reports, as they are useful only in the show room. The total number of birds competing in a class must be specified even though only three places are listed in the show report. This indicates the quantity of competition the birds faced.

E. A Show Catalog at year's end containing results from all ASRA National, District and Sanctioned shows to be published by the Bulletin Editor

**Bylaw Number 9-Bulletin Editor**

In order to maintain a quality Bulletin, the ASRA will pay the sum of \$200 (two hundred dollars) per year to the Bulletin Editor as a stipend to offset personal expenses and time involved.

**Bylaw Number 10-Secretary/Treasurer**

The ASRA Secretary/Treasurer will be given free membership, bands (up to 100), and a club patch during his/her term of office.

**Bylaw Number 11-Pigeon Shows**

A. One Annual District Meet shall be held in each District under the supervision of the District Director. Such meets

may be held in conjunction with other shows.

B. Shows other than the District Meet may be held within a District if approved by the District Director and President of the ASRA. These are known as "Sanctioned Meets" and must meet the high ideals and competitive standard of the ASRA. All shows (with the exception of the National Meet) within the District are financed by the exhibitors showing at said Meet.

C. The National Meet, held each year along with the NPA Grand National Show/Convention, will be planned and coordinated by the Director of the District in which the show is held. It will be financed by the ASRA, whose officers have the authority to approve funding.

D. Special prizes given by the ASRA at the NPA/ASRA National Show, District Meets and Sanctioned meets shall be open to anyone.

E. The ASRA will pay for reasonable travel and motel expenses for the designated primary American Show Racer judge at the NPA/ASRA Annual Grand National Show up to \$500. The District Director in charge of the Annual Meet held in conjunction with the Grand National Show shall confer months in advance with the officers of the ASRA to formulate a successful show regarding judges, alternate judges and specials. This District Director will recommend a list of three (3) possible judges who are willing to serve. These names will then be submitted to the voting officers who select the judge by a majority vote. The names of the selected judges will be published in the ASRA Bulletin at least six (6) months prior to the show. The alternate judge will be the nominee finishing second in the polling of the voting officers. If the show entry exceeds 400 (four hundred) American Show Racers, the alternate judge will be called upon to judge classes in which he/she has no birds entered. The alternate judge will not judge the finals and will not be compensated for judging. The alternate judge will be allowed to enter birds in the show. The primary judge will not be allowed to enter American Show Racers in the show. The ASRA will furnish awards for Champion, Reserve Champion, Best Opposite Sex and the recognized color classes. Judging will start at 1:00p.m. on Thursday of the show.

F. At all shows sanctioned by the ASRA, the ASRA District Director coordinating said show shall approve judges. An effort should be made through the Director to select the judges by a vote of the membership of the District where the show will be held. No exhibitor (including stewards) shall make any comment whatsoever to the judge while the judging of a class is in process. Any necessary comments during the actual judging of a class shall be made to the Director or Show Secretary, who will approach the judge if he/she deems it necessary.

G. Individual cage judging (18" x 18"), with two large judging cages (30" x 30"), is preferred when judging the American Show Racers. Stewarding of the birds by hand to and from the judging area is ideal. Birds can be transported by crate (no more than six (6) birds in a crate at a time) as an alternative. At the judging area, not more than two (2) birds should be cooped in the small 18" x 18" judging cages and not more than six (6) birds in the larger 30" x 30" judging cages. The base of the judging cages should be set at the height to best assist the judge in his/her effort to work and select the birds. The District Director shall provide enough judging cages to accommodate the largest class in the show without violating these rules. Stewards shall exercise the utmost care in handling the birds, especially keeping the bird upright and gently manipulating the legs to check band numbers.

#### **Bylaw Number 12-Districts**

**District 1-** North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and Virginia

**District 2-** Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Indiana

**District 3-** Missouri, Arkansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Wyoming, Montana, and Louisiana

**District 4-** Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Colorado, Alaska, and Hawaii

**District 5-** California and Nevada

**District 6-** British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba

**District 7-** Ontario and Quebec

**District 8-** Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, and District of Columbia

Eastern Region: The Eastern Region includes Districts 1, 2, 7 & 8.

Western Region: The Western Region includes Districts 3, 4, 5 & 6.

### **Bylaw Number 13-Judging Procedure**

The following outlines the recommended procedure in judging American Show Racers at all ASRA Sanctioned Meets.

#### Judging Order

Young Hens, Young Cocks, Old Hens, and Old Cocks.

#### Class Order

Blue Bar, Blue Check, Dark Check, Black Check, Red Bar, Red Check, Grizzle, Rare, Dominant Opal, Recessive Opal, Dilutes, Spread Black, Indigo/Andalusian, Pied and Mismark.

#### Following the judging of all classes as above

1. Line up all the first place young hens in the judging cages and choose first and second place overall.
2. Repeat the process with the young cocks, old hens and old cocks.

#### To Choose a Champion

1. Line up the Best Young Hen, Best Young Cock, Best Old Hen and Best Old Cock.
2. Select the best of the four to determine Champion and return the bird to its coop.

#### To Choose Reserve Champion

Line up the three birds that were beaten by the Champion under number 1 of the above section. Along with these three, line up the bird that was second to the Champion in its color class and the bird that was second to the Champion in its age/sex class. Example: if the Blue Bar old cock is Champion, the second place Blue Bar old cock and the second best old cock would compete with the three remaining age/sex winners for Reserve Champion. The Reserve Champion is chosen from these five (5) birds.

#### To Choose Best Opposite Sex

1. If the Reserve Champion is not the same sex as the Champion, the award automatically goes to the Reserve Champion.
2. If the Reserve Champion is the same sex as the Champion (for example, both are cocks), choose between the old hen and young hen for Best Opposite Sex.

#### To Choose Best Young Bird

Choose between the Best Young Cock and Best Young Hen (if the

Champion is a young bird then the award is automatic).

#### To Choose Best Old Bird

Same process as Best Young Bird selection.

#### To Choose Color Class Winners

1. The color class from which the Champion was selected is automatic as the Champion is logically the best of its color class.

2. If the Reserve Champion is a different color than the Champion, it also would be best of its color class.
3. To select best of the remaining color classes, judge the four first place birds of age/sex/color classes against one another.

#### **Bylaw Number 14-Advertising and Promotion**

- A. The Secretary/Treasurer, Bulletin Editor, Publicity Director or other officer delegated by the President is authorized to place ASRA advertisements in three (3) pigeon publications, up to \$100 each annually.
- B. The ASRA Executive Officers have the authority to offer up to ten new memberships and \$150 annually as promotional support to encourage new growth and development of the Districts.

#### **Bylaw Number 15-Bidding on ASR Bands**

- A. Bids and money are to be sent to the Band Director by October 1 of the year preceding the band year.
- B. We recommend that bidders submit three choices for their band series.
- C. On October 1, the Band Director will evaluate the bids and award the band series to the highest bidders. All bidders will be advised of the results by November 15.
- D. If order cannot be filled with the chosen series, any money over the band price will be refunded to the bidder and they will be assigned another series as available.
- E. Money collected over and above the band price will be distributed as follows:  
  
50% District that bidder belongs to, 25% ASRA, 25% National Show expenses.

#### **The Written American Show Racer Standard**

Adopted by the membership of the American Show Racer Association September 20, 1993

#### **Head**

Profile rising gradually and smoothly in an unbroken curve from the top of the beak to the highest point just above the center of the eye, then descending gradually and smoothly, flowing into the neck and providing a full and balanced back skull. Minimum distance from the tip of the beak to the center of the eye shall be one and one-half inches. Top view must show good width at the back of the head and between the eyes, narrowing gradually from the back smoothly toward the wattle and showing no angularity in outline with no pinching between the eye and the wattle. Across the crown should be convex from above the eye on one side to above the eye on the other side. This should not be flat or square. The whole head should express strength with no sign of weakness, thinness or sharp angles. A crest is a serious fault.

#### **Beak**

Medium in length stout and straight set. Both mandibles of nearly equal substance set smoothly into the face with no broken outline. Upper and lower mandibles should fit closely with no sign of gaping or crossing. An imaginary line extended through the mandible seam should extend through the center of the eye. The beak may vary in color from dark in standard blue colors to amber in reds, to flesh color in Dilutes, Whites and in some Splashes and Rare's.

#### **Wattle**

Medium in size, smooth in texture and free from coarseness. It should fit smoothly between the head and the beak in profile and top view. Both sides should be of equal substance. In both top and front views, wattle should appear even, balanced and heart shaped with no pronounced split or feather growth between the halves. The wattle should fit smoothly with the feathers surrounding it. Any naturally exposed skin under and around the lower mandible should be small, smooth in texture, free from coarseness and not obvious to the casual glance.

#### **Eye**

Bright, fiery and sharp in appearance. Bright blood to dark red or chestnut preferred. Gravel, pale, broken or odd marked eyes are a serious fault. Both eyes must be the same color. Eye color to be compatible with the color and associated genetic factors of the bird. A bull eye or solid black eye is permissible in Whites and Splashes. False pearl eyes are acceptable in brown birds.

### **Eye Ceres**

Small, smooth, neat and finely laced, dark or plum color preferred, slightly narrower at the back of the eye. A light or flesh colored cere is acceptable when it compliments the bird's color such as in Dilutes, some Rare colors, Whites and/or White Splashes. Ceres should not be obvious to the casual glance.

### **Neck**

In profile cut straight back from bottom of the lower mandible to a throat that is free from gullet and thickness, then descending in a smooth curve to a broad chest. On the backside, it should descend from a full back skull in a slight but smooth curve, blending into broad shoulders. It should be stout, of medium length and with no sign of loose feathers or neck creases. Crescent or frill is a serious fault.

### **Back**

Short, flat and broad across the shoulders and tapering smoothly to the rump. Strong and well padded as it approaches the rump with no indication of indentation or weakness.

### **Rump**

Well padded and sturdy, showing no signs of weakness, flatness or excessive width, tapering smoothly into the tail slightly convex from side to side.

### **Vent Bones**

Vent bones should show strength and be fairly close to the end of the keel, allowing no more than 3/4" between the end of the keel and the vent bones. Hens may be allowed a little leeway on this, but should not exceed 1".

### **Keel**

Keel (breastbone) shall be centered in the body and curve smoothly from the chest up toward the vent bones. It should show no wave, indentation or crookedness. It should be three to four inches in length. It should be of good structure, not prominent but fleshed out, giving the feeling of a smooth roundness from side to side. Keel should not be too deep or too shallow.

### **Wings**

Strong and powerful, held close to the body, just above the tail, with thick and fairly prominent butts. Primary and secondary flights should be wide in web, closely overlapping, with length in keeping with the size of the body. Quills should be strong and steel like. Coverts should be broad, of good length and thickness, covering well over the rump. There should be ten primary and ten secondary flights in each wing. Primary flights not completely grown out, as long as the bird is molting evenly, should not be considered a major fault. All feathers should be free from holes, fret marks and any other damage.

### **Tail**

Twelve strong feathers close fitting and overlapping to give the appearance of one feather; short in proportion to the size of the bird and extending slightly beyond the flights 1/2" to 1" at most and fitting smoothly into the rump.

### **Legs and Feet**

Free from feathers on the lower legs and feet. Feathers should be close fitting on the upper leg, at hocks and between legs. Legs should be bent at hocks with thighs well set back, strong and muscular and medium to short in length. Feet and legs should be dark to bright red. Toe nails sharp and of all the same color. Color may vary from dark to black in standard blue colored birds, to amber in Ash Reds, to flesh colored in Whites and some Splashes.

## **Carriage or Station**

Erect and bold, with line from the center of the eye to the tip of the tail being at about a forty-five degree angle. Tip of tail should be approximately 3/4" from the ground. Bird should exhibit well-balanced conformation. The entire picture should be one of alertness and of proud and showy carriage.

## **Color/Marking**

All colors in standard color classes should be true with a clear, sharp definition of pattern, without whiteness, lightness or smoke and with solid backs, flanks, thighs, rumps, and bellies. Refer to color guideline for more details.

## **Condition**

Sound, firm of flesh, neither underweight nor overweight, feathers smooth and slippery, carriage alert and vital entire picture of health and energy.

## **Body**

The body as a whole presents a smoothly tapered, wedge shaped appearance that is clearly felt in the hand. It begins with a good, broad chest and tapers to a narrow rump. It should be well fleshed and solid with a feeling of strength and smoothness, not fat. It should be neither too deep nor too shallow.

## **Size/Weight**

Medium size bird is preferred and when in show condition should weigh between 17 and 22 ounces. Height to be 9" slight over or under size, or over or under weight, should not eliminate a bird if otherwise near perfection. Both judges and breeders should make a sincere effort to adhere to the standard size and weight.

## **Behavior**

Cool, generally unperturbed, without undue nervousness, wildness or panting and with no flying or climbing and no excessive pacing of the judging pen.

## **Disqualifications**

Judges may disqualify for sickness, trimming, deformity, and severe out of condition from dirt, disease or parasites.

## **Color Classes**

Blue Bar, Blue Check, Dark Check, Black Check, Red Bar, Red Check, Grizzle, Rare, Dominant Opal, Recessive Opal, Dilute, Spread Black, Indigo/Andalusian, Pied, and Mismark.

## **Point System**

Total of 100 points to be divided as follows:

Head	10
Beak	6
Wattle	3
Eye	5
Eye Cere	3
Neck	5
Back	3
Rump	4
Vent Bones	4
Keel	4
Wings	6
Tail	4
Legs/Feet	5
Carriage/Station	10
Color/Marking	5

Condition	7
Body	7
Size/Weight	5
Behavior	4
Total	100

Birds will not be judged by points, the point system is intended as a guideline, showing the relative importance of characteristics. This may best be used in breeding.

## THE AMERICAN SHOW RACER COLOR GUIDELINE

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Updated with new colors July, 1996  
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Updated with new color March, 2002  
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Updated with new colors July, 2007  
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The American Show Racer is a "type pigeon" with color classes to aid in separating the breed into judgeable categories. Following is a clarification of the different colors and patterns, showing what is "desired", considered "undesirable" and "unacceptable" in the show room. Good color is a desirable characteristic and one of the fine finishing touches which contributes to the total Show Racer. However, it should be understood that at no time should a bird of perfect or desired color win over a bird of superior type simply because it excels in color alone.

All colors in solid color classes should be true without whiteness and with solid backs, flanks, thighs, rumps and bellies. Refer to color/ marking section of the Written Standard for details.

### ASRA COLOR CLASSES

Blue Bar, Blue Check, Dark Check, Black Check (medium to Black Velvet), Red Bar, Red Check (light to Red Velvet), Grizzle, Dominant Opal, Dilute, Pied, Spread Black, Rare, Indigo/Andalusian, Recessive Opal, and Mismark.

#### Blue Bar

**Desirable:** The Blue Bar should be within the light to medium range of pearl gray, sometimes referred to as powder blue. This shade should remain uniform throughout the wing shields, back, chest, rump, hocks and vent. The head and neck are most often a darker shade. The neck should show the iridescent green and purple, with green predominating. The flight feathers are dark gray becoming almost black on the outer edges and tips. The tail should have a dark almost black band approximately 3/4" in width appearing about 1/2" from the end of each feather. The bars, two in number, should be black clearly defined bars on each wing shield and come together where the wings fit over the rump. The bars should carry down and reach as close as possible to the leading edge of the wing. Beak and toe nails very dark, almost black.

**Undesirable:** Smoky or dirty blue color as well as very light hocks, rump, vent and back. Thin or weakly defined bars. (Some penalty should be imposed by the judge for the above).

**Unacceptable:** Occurrence of white feathers anywhere or white toe nails. Showing sootiness or pencil markings will put the Blue Bar in the Mismark class. When there is any showing of bronze, the bird shall be placed in the Mismark class.

#### Blue Check

**Desirable:** The light to medium Blue Check exhibits same base ground color as the Blue Bar, with an overlay of black checking on the wing shields. The term "Blue Check" actually refers to the density of the checker pattern. In the Blue Check, there will be an abundant amount of light gray under color. Approximately 50% under color and 50% checker pattern is the limit of checking that a bird can have to be shown in the Blue Check class. Once the checking exceeds 50%, they must be shown in the Dark Check class. In both light and medium checks, it is desirable to have the rump color of the same base—light gray with some checking. However, in lights you rarely find this checking to exist. The neck, flight feathers, and tail are the same color and shade as the Blue Bar. Beak and toe nails should be very dark—almost black. There is a tail bar like the Blue Bar.



**Undesirable:** Smoky or dirty under color as well as light hocks, rump, vent, and back. Uneven checking in pattern should be penalized.

**Unacceptable:** Occurrence of white feathers anywhere or white toe nails shall place the Blue Check in the Mismark class. Any bronze coloring showing on the bird's wing shield shall place the bird in the Mismark class.

### **Dark Check**

**Desirable:** The Dark Check has the same base ground color as the Blue Check with a heavier concentration of the checking. More than 50% up to 75% of the wing shield shall be devoted to checking. When the checking has reached this abundance, the rump, back, thighs and vent should show checking also. The head, neck, breast and flights should be a shade darker than the Blue Check to compliment the tone and ratio of checking.

**Undesirable:** The following traits shall deem the color undesirable: light back/ rump, vent and hocks, little or no checking on back, rump, vent and thighs, and smoky under color in wing shields. All these factors should be taken into consideration by the judge.

**Unacceptable :** Occurrence of white feathers anywhere or white toe nails or bronzing shall place the Dark Check in the Mismark class.

### **Black Check (Medium to Black Velvet)**

**Desirable:** The Black Check has the same base ground color as the Blue Bar and Blue Check, with a much heavier concentration of checking to the point that very little under color shows through. When the checking has reached this abundance the rump, back, thighs and vent should show checking also. The head, neck, breast and flights should be a shade darker than the Blue Bar and Blue Check to compliment the tone and ratio of checking. This checking becomes so extensive that no under color whatsoever can be seen--the head, neck, breast, back and rump are as black as the wing shields. When the color becomes this intense it is called a Black Velvet. Black Velvet is the extreme expression of Black Check. The Black Velvet should also show checking in the thighs and vent. The Black Velvet is not a high gloss jet black, but a velvety appearance. The beak and toe nails should be very dark, almost black. There is a tail band like the Blue Bar.

**Undesirable:** The following traits shall deem the color undesirable: light back/ rump, vent and hocks, little or no checking on back, rump, vent and thighs, and smoky under color in wing shields. All these factors should be taken into consideration by the judge.

**Unacceptable:** Occurrence of white feathers anywhere or white toe nails will place the bird in the Mismark class. Any bronzing shall also have the bird placed in the Mismark class.

### **Red Bar**

**Desirable:** The Red Bar has an under color of light pale ash beige. In some cases a frosty light cream, almost white color. The color should remain uniform throughout the wing shield, rump, hocks and vent. The head and neck in some instances are a darker shade with the neck showing iridescent green and purple color with the purple predominating. In some instances the head and neck remain the same color as the rest of the bird with no neck color. Sometimes there is a slight showing of the reddish color in the wing flights. The tail does not show the tail band as in the blue/black family. The bars should be a good, deep shade of ash red somewhat comparable to the color of a new brick. They should be of good width, clearly defined, two on each wing shield, and come together where the wings fit over the rump. The bars should carry down and reach as close as possible to the leading edge of the wing. In some cocks, there will be a small black ticking or flecking in the flights and tail feathers. In some hens, the same ticking may occur, but it will be brown instead of black. Beaks and toe nails will vary from very dark to medium horn color and some cases so light it's almost white. (This is not a fault)

**Undesirable:** Smoky or dirty under color. Thin or weakly defined bars. Light washed out bar color.

**Unacceptable:** Occurrence of pure white feathers anywhere. Black or brown flecking or spots, so excessive it distracts from the overall appearance of the bird. Penciling, sooty, mealy, strawberry markings or signs of a third bar. Any of the above shall place the bird in the Mismark class.

### **Red Check (Light to Red Velvet)**

**Desirable:** The Red Check should have the same under color as the Red Bar. A very light pale beige, in some cases coming very close to a light cream color, with an overlay on the wing shield of reddish checker pattern. This checker pattern may vary from a soft pale shade of brownish red to a dark red approximately the color of a new brick. The intensity of the pattern may vary from a modest amount to a very dense concentration which should cover the rump and underside of the bird. The Red Check class covers the full spectrum from light Red Check to Red Velvet. The neck and head may be of the same reddish color with an iridescent purplish green in the neck with purplish color predominating. Flights and tail feathers may vary from light to showing considerable amounts of the reddish coloration. In cocks, black ticking is permitted. Some hens may have brown ticking. There is not a tail band. Beaks and toe nails will vary from dark to medium horn color and some cases so light it's almost white. (This is not a fault.) No one shade of Red shall be preferred over the other.

**Unacceptable:** Occurrence of white feathers anywhere or white toe nails. If the black or brown flecking becomes excessive enough to distract from the overall appearance of the ash red coloration, the bird shall be placed in the Mismark class.

### **Grizzle**

**Desirable:** Grizzle is a dominant genetic modifying factor that can be placed on any color or pattern. It tends to show a peppery or grizzling pattern in “most” of the feathers in the heterozygous state (inherited factor from one parent). When a bird inherits the Grizzle factor from both parents, this is called homozygous or stork. In the blue phase, the birds are white with dark flights and tails. In ash red, they appear almost white with the presence of ash feathers throughout the bird. Depending upon what pattern the grizzle factor is placed over, it will cause a different expression from very dark over T-pattern to much lighter over bar.

All such patterns and expressions are “equally” desirable. Beak and toe nails are generally (but not always) dark to dark black in blue birds and horn to flesh colored in red birds. The toe nails do not need to be all the same color. Eye cere must complement the color of the bird. Eye color must be dark. This class is for all birds expressing the Grizzle factor regardless of the ground color (i.e. Ash Red, Blue, and Brown) or the presence of other modifiers (e.g. Dominant Opal, Recessive Opal, T-pattern/checker/bar, etc.) This includes homozygous grizzle. Regardless of the expression of Grizzle all Grizzles will be shown in this class.

**Undesirable:** Any bird with a weak or inconsistent manifestation of the Grizzle effect, such as one showing but a few speckles of white around the head and neck.

**Unacceptable:** . Grizzles with one or more white flights (secondary and primary) and white tail feathers or solid, large white and dark patches shall be placed in the Mismark class. Bull or black eyes are not acceptable. Blue or Ash birds with a few white specks around the head shall be placed in the Mismark class.

### **Dominant Opal**

**Desirable:** Dominant Opal is a dominant genetic modifying factor that can be placed on any color or pattern. Generally the underlying pattern will show through and the expression varies from almost undetectable to white in places that are normally black in a blue pigeon. Generally the dark spots such as bars and checks are lightened, often they become either a tan or white color. The factor generally lightens the color, replacing the iridescent green in the neck and breast with a yellowish cast. In Ash Red it often can be a very light expression. Two well defined wing bars in check and bar pattern. Beak and toe nails black to gray in blue colored birds and horn to flesh colored in red birds. All toe nails must be the same color. Eye ceres should be a grayish color. This class includes Opalusian. The base color should be an even tone throughout with shades remaining uniform in the wing shields, back, neck, rump, hocks, vent, and chest.

**Undesirable:** Smoky or dirty under color or washing out to almost white in the underbelly, hocks, rump, vent or tail areas.

**Unacceptable:** In bar pattern, any significant indication of a third bar or penciling would place the bird in the Mismark class. Occurrence of white feathers or white toe nails would place the bird in the Mismark class.

### **Dilute**

The Yellow Class and the True Silver Class will be included in the formation of the Dilute Class. Also “All” dilutes of the other color classes will be placed in this class. Also all patterns will be included—T-pattern, Check, Bar, and Barless. Pies will not be included in this class. This class includes yellow, true silver, and dilutes of all the other color classes.

**Undesirable:** Smoky or dirty under color or washing out to almost white in the underbelly, hocks, rump, vent, or tail area.

**Unacceptable:** In bar pattern birds, any significant indication of a third bar or penciling would put the bird in the Mismark class. The occurrence of white feathers or white toe nails shall place the bird in the Mismark Class.

### **Pied**

**Desirable:** A patchwork mixture of white and any other color, with at least 30% to 70% of any of the exposed feather surface area being white, is mandatory. See other color guidelines for the characteristics of the basic colors of the birds—this includes rare colors. Toe nails and beaks can be a combination of white or colored. Bull or black eyes are desirable when the head color is white. Otherwise, dark eyes are required if the head feathering is not white.

**Unacceptable:** Birds that are not within the color ratio “**must be shown in the Mismark class.**”

### **Spread Black**

**Desirable:** Spread Black shall be intense jet black throughout and possibly covered with a rich green luster. Black beak and black toe nails are required.

**Undesirable:** Smokey or washed out coloring is undesirable on any part of the bird. Bars or Checks showing through the wing shields are considered poor coloring and undesirable in addition to any bronzing.

**Unacceptable:** Any white feathers, white beaks, or toe nails are also unacceptable. All these unacceptable features shall place the bird in the Mismarked class.

### **Rare**

**Desirable:** Rare Show Racers are of any color pattern not included in the standard color classes as indicated elsewhere in this guide. These include: Almond, Brown, White, Reduced, Milky, Fade (Red, Blue, and Brown), Shield (Saddle) Marked, Spread Ash Red, and any other colors not presently seen but which might be found in the future. Beak, toe nails, and eye color should compliment the color of the bird. Bull eyes are allowed in White and Shield (Saddle) Marked birds only. All other birds shall have dark eyes with the exception of Browns which have false pearl eyes.

The Show Superintendent has the authority to establish a class in any of the above colors whenever enough birds of that color are shown. This is a request—When entering your Rare’s, please try to include the color of the bird on the entry form. For example, rare young hen/Almond.

**Undesirable:** Poor color or pattern for the Rare is undesirable as for any class.

**Unacceptable:** Occurrence of white feathers except for those birds whose color description accepts white, such as solid White birds. Saddle Marked birds will only have colored wing shields; any other colored feathers will make it necessary for the bird to be placed in the Pied Class. Any birds that do not fall within the above guidelines shall be placed in the Mismark Class. Any white feathers shall place the bird in the Mismark class.

### **Indigo/Andalusian**

**Desirable:** Indigo is a dominant genetic modifying factor that can be placed on any color (preferably blue) and pattern. Generally the underlying pattern will show thru and the expression varies. The dark spots such as the bars and checks are changed from a rusty bronze to a rich reddish bronze. The tail bar is washed out or at times the end of the tail is lightened. Andalusian is a combination of Indigo and spread. Heterozygous Andalusian is the most common seen in

ASR's, it is rich Blue Indigo through out. In the homozygous (pure) state the bird is a steel gray with a dark to Black class head. Beaks and toe nails are to be Black.

**Undesirable:** Smokey, dirty, or washed out coloring on any part of the bird.

**Unacceptable:** Any white feathers, white or light beaks or toe nails. These features shall place the bird in the mismark class

### **Recessive Opal**

**Desirable:** Recessive Opal is a true recessive so for this to be present both parents must have the gene to pass it on to its offspring. In show racers, it's present mainly in the blue phase. The bird's base color is a pale to faded silver blue and the bars and check are a reddish to orange color. Spread Recessive Opal in cocks tends to be silver throughout and the hens are a dull steel gray. The following will be included in this class: Spread, Check, Bar. Dark eyes and gray to dark beaks and toe nails.

**Undesirable:** Smoky or dirty under color or the washing out to almost white in the underbelly, hocks, rump, or vent areas.

**Unacceptable:** In the bar pattern, any significant indication of a third bar or penciling would place the bird in the Mismark class. Occurrence of white feathers or white toe nails will place the bird in the Mismark class.

### **Mismark**

The term "Mismark" shall apply to any of the aforementioned classes (see Grizzle explanation) exhibiting white or other signs of mismarking as described as unacceptable in the various classes. This shall include white ticks, white vent, white rump, white back, white flights (wing or tail, primary or secondary), white hocks or white toe nails (except where all toe nails may be very light in certain very light patterned red factored birds. They all must be of the same color and shade.) Pencil, sooty, mealy or strawberry markings or any sign of a third bar are to be considered a Mismark. Any sharp break in color across the body (mosaic, dark to light very noticeable band across the chest) shall be considered a Mismark.