

# AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION, INC.

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## ***Avian Influenza Update*** ***Most recent news . . .***

**Kansas** - The state veterinarian's office has asked that they receive the following prior to any race release activity.

1. A point of contact for the race release that will take place.
2. A list of birds and owner contact information.

In order to present a cooperative effort to the state office, please provide this information [to the AU office](#) one week in advance of the release event. Please assist us in this effort. Presenting this positive action can help us become increasingly exempt from restriction with regard to AI.

**Kentucky** - The state veterinarian's office has shared that they determined as of June 18, that they realize the negligible risk of homing pigeon race activity and we are allowed to proceed as usual without restriction.

We do not have updates from other states to date.

***As always, we caution to utilize the below recommendations.***

## ***AU Bio-Security Recommendations***

Basic bio-security measures should always be used. It is more important than ever to make sure you are cleaning your loft regularly, washing hands going in and out of the loft, monitoring or perhaps restricting others from going in and out of your loft and

placing new birds in a quarantine section before integrating them with your other birds.

Several years ago, former board members, Tommy Erskine and Dr. Gary Braden, developed bio-security measures for AU members to follow. Subsequently, this document was reviewed by the USDA. The USDA indicated the bio-security measures presented were a great model for AU members to follow.

AU Bio-Security Recommendations are found at <http://pigeon.org/biosecurity.htm>

### ***Other Ways You Can Help***

The AU also developed the Loft Certification Program many years ago. We have encouraged members to participate in this self-regulating program to illustrate optimum care is provided the birds. It is achieved through a point system and is based on practicing basic bio-security. The [AU Loft Certification Program](#) doesn't cost anything. For more information, please feel free to call the national office (800-755-2778).