

AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION, INC.

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Virulent Newcastle Disease (VND) Update

Previously, we reported that after conversation with the California State Veterinarian, it was confirmed that there had been a few new cases of VND detected in November. In spite of that, there was some hope that if no more cases were detected, it may not impact the three month window of time that must pass before restrictions are lifted.

Unfortunately, there have been multiple new cases detected and it has been confirmed that it is a result of illegal movement of birds. Even vehicles and clothing can carry the disease to an uninfected area.

We want this to end as much as our members do! Please encourage those around you to comply with the quarantine restrictions and not move birds illegally.

We will again reach out to the State Veterinarian to determine if restrictions will be extended as a result of these newly detected cases.

For additional information or to view a map of the quarantine area, go to:
https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal_health/newcastle_disease_info.html

The CDFA is still recommending that gatherings where birds (including but not limited to poultry) are brought together for shows, auctions, swap meets, pet marts, fair exhibits, pigeon races, and petting zoos be suspended.

We encourage members to adhere to the recommendations to avoid potentially spreading the virus or putting your birds in jeopardy.

Please do not attempt to ship birds from within quarantine areas.

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