

These pigeons just keep flying. They don't care it is dark.

When you are waiting for your long distance birds and it gets very dark you close your loft and you know you have to get up early the next day.

This is the case in Canada but not in Holland.

Long distance races are quite often released around noon to make it impossible for the French or Belgium birds to reach home on the day.

The problem is that on a bright day the birds keep flying and they can land at two three or four O'clock at night!

This creates quite a few problems.

1. The fancier does not want to go to bed in case a bird turns up and if he finally goes to bed he sleeps lousy!!
2. If a bird gets clocked for example at 2.00 O'clock at night what happens with his velocity?

It does wonders for that velocity!

As you know if the time was stopped on racing day, let us say at 9.00 PM. Now the 'dead' time starts and the race starts up again let us say for example at 5.00 AM. **(Please don't bother me with that ½ hour before and after!)**

The winner is the bird clocked at the furthest distance, during the 'dead' time

If Tony Alves would clock at 1 O'clock at night and Ron Hastie would clock at five minutes to five. Ron Hastie would be the winner. His loft is approx 3 km further.

Can you imagine the problems this creates!!

All those Dutchmen bitching!

Examples:

Race 1 Bordeaux- 864 km

Birds released 13.30 pm

1st bird clocked at 4.52.29 at night velocity 1587.756 1st prize out of 12.641 birds.

Bird sat on the loft when owner showed up!!

Race 2 Angouleme- 8.721 pigeons released 15.00 O'clock

1st bird clocked at 4.50 AM Winner Velocity over 1900 m/m. Bird sat on loft again.

These are just a few examples of many races decided by birds flying through the 'dead' time

Lots of discussions how to change all this. As usual there are people who do not want any changes. I think the only solution; release the birds as early as possible. **They might be too tired to race through the night!!**

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