

Notice on July 2, 2026:

This notice is concerning the unplanned release for the scheduled Midwest Topeka race on Saturday, June 27, 2026. Unfortunately, the quick release lever on the Twin City Combine trailer tripped while the driver was hooking up the release chains and cutting crate seals. We have taken appropriate measures under AU race rule 10.04 to ensure the integrity of the race.

Race Rule 10.04 reads: Should one or more birds escape in transit, or at the liberation point before the official race release, an inventory shall be performed to account for the missing bird(s). Those birds identified as missing shall be disqualified. All baskets should be numbered. The Race Secretary and Liberator shall have a complete inventory of all birds shipped and released. (10/09) If an inventory of the remaining birds in the crate(s) from which the birds escaped is impractical, and if there is NO other independent method to determine which birds were in the affected crate(s), such as by a crate designation on the organization race entry form, the entire race shall be declared as NO CONTEST.

Below is a recap of the clubs, crates and birds that were involved:

GREAT PLAINS FLYERS: Two crates containing all their birds were in the unplanned release and all birds were withdrawn from the race. No birds were involved in the race.

MINNEAPOLIS RPC: Seven crates were in the unplanned release. Six of the seven crates were completely emptied and the seventh crate #117 had five birds remaining in the crate. These birds were inventoried by the Twin City Concourse trucker and the Heartland RPF trucker and were in the race.

VIKING RPC: Crate #32 containing 10 birds from Lyle Snavely were in the unplanned release and all 10 birds were withdrawn from race. The VIKING RPC had a basketing designation and the remaining crates were in the race.

MID MINNEASOTA RPC: Crate C containing 13 cocks from Jack Hofmann were involved in the unplanned release and all 13 birds were withdrawn from race. The MID MINNESOTA RPC had a basketing designation and the remaining crates were in the race.

ROCHESTER RPC: Two Rochester crates were involved in the unplanned release and all birds in the two crates were withdrawn from the race. The birds in the remaining 2 crates were inventoried by the Twin City Concourse trucker and the Heartland RPF trucker and were in the race.

LONG HAUL RPC: Four crates #6, 14, 10, 7 were released in the unplanned release. The Club has a basketing designation of the birds in the unplanned release. The birds in crates #6, 14, 10, 7 were withdrawn from the race. The LONG HAUL RPC had a basketing designation and the remaining crates were in the race.

The birds for the 2026 Midwest Classic from Topeka, KS were held until Sunday, June 28, 2026 due to the weather. The race was liberated at 6:15am, the temperature was 77 degrees, the skies were clear with a SE wind at 11 miles an hour. We are currently in the process of triple checking the results to make sure all birds impacted by the unplanned release are removed from the race prior to uploading into the Midwest Classic results.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the race. A special thank you goes to the race secretaries for your diligence with identifying the birds affected by the unplanned release on Saturday, June 27, 2026 and to Don Augustine (Heartland RPF trucker) who helped with the on-site inventory for the race released on Sunday, June 28, 2026.

Again, we have taken the appropriate measures under AU race rule 10.04 to ensure the integrity of the race. The results will be shared once all clubs are processed.

Regards,

Frank Johnson
President, Midwest Homing Pigeon Association

Donald E. Lowe Jr.
Secretary, Midwest Homing Pigeon Association