

District 7 notes

Seasons greetings from District 7! District 7? What is District 7? District 7 is new, old, large and small all at the same time. It's large because it encompasses the entire country of Canada (did you know that Canada is the largest country on the planet?). It's small because we have fewer numbers of dedicated breeders than some districts. It's new because, well, it's new. It's old because when I was a teenager (you don't want to how long ago that was) there was a Canadian District of the IFCA that I belonged to.

Canada already has its own Indian Fantail Club. It's the Canadian Indian Fantail Club, www.indianfantailcanada.ca. It has been in existence since 1990 and has been holding shows each year since. Membership has varied and at present is around 25. Historically the main hub of activity has been Southern Ontario (think north of Buffalo). Right now breeding Indian Fantails in Canada is on the rise with pockets of breeders sprouting up, most noticeably in Vancouver, BC, led by Givo Hassko and Marriane Harangazzo. Of course, enthusiasm is useless without stock to support the enthusiasm. To the credit of both buyers and sellers many very good birds are finding new homes.

Amongst this positive energy the CIFC has had an interest in more cooperation between breeders on both sides of the border. In speaking with various presidents of the IFCA over the years, starting with Ted Golka, I found that the feeling was mutual. How to make it work was the question. Harvey took over as the IFCA president last year and made it simple; just create a district. So we discussed it on both sides of the border and, well, here we are.

By creating a District 7 we can hold joint CIFC / IFCA shows. Exhibitors can chose to belong to either or both clubs. The costs of staging shows are borne by the CIFC and funds generated stay with the CIFC, same as any district. Very simple. The expectation is that over time there will be much more interaction between Indian Fantail breeders regardless of where they live. So welcome to District 7! We will welcome you to our home if you venture north of the border! Many of you have already done that over the years; Ted Golka, Rick Leimann, Rich Sheedy, Doc, Steve Garrison, Frank German, etc.

As part of this new initiative, the CIFC voted at the AGM held at our annual show at Woodstock to make the show our first ever joint CIFC / IFCA 100 point show. The timing could not have been better as the judge for this show was Ted Golka. The weather in this area has really played havoc with birds moulting this year so entries were down but most of the main breeders still participated. Ted did his usual thorough judging, explaining his placings as he went. The breeders in attendance surely all went home with more knowledge of the breed and their birds in particular. It

was great to watch him in action. At the end of the day a white YC owned by myself was champion and a white OH shown by Floriano Lindo was first reserve. It was a great day at a pigeon show, as it always is. Floriano is the incoming president of the CIFC. He, his wife Sue and his sons Isan and Max deserve a huge thank you for their help in setting up, working during the show and tearing it all down again. Ben Fehr, the show secretary worked hard all day keeping classes organized and tabulated as well and deserves many thanks. Ted did a great job and was a terrific ambassador for the IFCA, naturally, and deserves many thanks as well.

Lastly, this joint cooperation would not be possible without Harvey Addengast's vision, Spud Peugh's support and the support of all Indian Fantail breeders on both sides of the border. Everybody that supported the votes on both sides of the border deserve thank you's. This is a unique, progressive initiative that many other clubs would do well to study and Institute to help the hobby survive and even grow in these trying times for our hobby.

Welcome to District 7!

Mike Vito