

# Guidelines for the Exhibiting of Pigeons

1. Only healthy pigeons in good show condition may be exhibited.
2. Only pigeons where there is proof of their having been sufficiently inoculated against Paramyxovirus infection may be shown.

**The certificate of inoculation must contain the following:**

- The name and address of the pigeon's owner – in case of loft partnerships all names
- A certificate of the inoculation of the entire stock.
- The date of the inoculation.
- Description of the vaccine.
- The stamp of the practice and signature of the inoculating veterinary surgeon.

3. The inoculation certificates are to be sent to BIW Kreuzfeldt GmbH in good time before event.

**The latest date for submission is: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019.**

4. The exhibition cages must have a minimum width, depth and height of 35 cm. Cages for breeds larger than racing pigeons must have a size of 40 x 40 x 40 cm and for pigeons like 'Strasser' the cages must have a size of 50 x 50 x 50 cm.
5. The rear wall of cages must have protection from view (e.g. rear wall of wood, shield of wood or cardboard or the cages being set up against a wall).

Explanation: A certain possibility of retreat will thereby be created for the pigeons in order to reduce stress, which is lacking if the cages are open to view from all sides.

6. The cages must have vertical bars.

Explanation: The pigeons can grasp onto horizontal bars and damage their tail feathers.

7. The floor of the cage must consist of the following:

- corrugated cardboard or
- dust-free absorbent granular litter (no wood shavings) or
- a floor grill, as long as there are no sharp edges, the bars are thick enough to exclude injury and the gaps are such that the pigeons cannot step through them.

8. The cages must be set up at a height of at least 70 cm from the floor.

Explanation: Potential buyers are to approach the pigeons from the side and not from above. The pigeons feel much more threatened when approached from above than from the side.

9. There must be containers for drinking water and food in the cage. The pigeons are to be fed at least twice a day. Fresh water must always be available.
10. Only one pigeon is to be accommodated per cage. The only exceptions are the keeping of groups in aviaries. For a couple of racing pigeons the cage must have 10 cm more depth and height as described before
11. Cages and transport baskets must be set up in a draught-free area (putting them in draughty areas near entrances is not permitted).
12. Offering pigeons in transport baskets is not permitted. If a reserve of pigeons for sale is kept in transport baskets each pigeon must have a standing area of at least 300 cm<sup>2</sup> and the inside of the basket must be kept dark except when they are being given food or water. Baskets containing pigeons are to be put in a quiet place. They must be equipped for giving them food and water. The pigeons are to be given food and water at least twice a day.
13. Everyone selling pigeons must have transport boxes available so that the pigeons which are sold can be transported by the purchaser in a manner appropriate to the bird.

The guidelines are based on the Conditions laid down by The Oberbürgermeister (Mayor) of the town Kassel – the "Staatliches Amt für Lebensmittelüberwachung, Tierschutz und Veterinärwesen" (Federal Authority for the Monitoring of Food, the Protection of Animals and Veterinary Affairs). They have been discussed and agreed with veterinary surgeons that are mainly concerned with the maintaining of health in pigeons.