

"Agony Of Defeat"

by

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We have experienced a lot of different feelings in our beloved pigeon sport. One feeling that has become too controversial that stirred emotions among fanciers in the pigeon world. The feeling that builds up jealousy and unsportsmanlike conduct. The worst feeling of all, "Agony of defeat".

A single "rumor" of a winning fancier cheating a race even without a justifiable solid proof can spread like wild fire. It was unimaginable that an innocent fancier can be scrutinized and branded as a cheater without due process in many fancier's minds. At times the end result was irreversible. It could take years before an innocent champion be released of such notion of false accusations.

"Agony of defeat" can be compelling to one's soul especially when a veteran flyer was beaten by a beginner with a combine win of 20 minutes and in some cases 2 hours ahead in the race. There were too many agonizing stories out there. In worst scenarios the honest reputation of a fancier was ruined for nothing. Fanciers all over the globe that had flown for several years would have experienced various unpleasant scenarios happening in various clubs, concourse and combines. It was too difficult to fathom the ridiculous behavior of a fancier suffering from the so called "agony of defeat" syndrome. Fanciers dreaming for a combine win for years but their dream never materialized.

In most cases such fanciers will just vow to improve their handling and management techniques with the help of newly acquired imports. Some do quit the sport and find a less stressful hobby where they can satisfy their want of winning. Friendships were destroyed and if not totally, it would be like a broken mirror that is mended but with a deep scar. I called this the greatest waste in our beloved sport.

Are we becoming unsportsmanlike through the years? Or is this just a part of our sport in the very beginning? There by loosing our grip to set good example for the whole world to follow. I believe we have to retrace our path. We are very competitive. It is in our blood. We do hate to lose. To win and to win again is our great passion. To win first place is all that matters. At times we forget to congratulate a second, third, fourth or fifth place winner in our clubs and combines.

We have to face the simple truth. We can not win all the time. That is the hard fact and we can not be a loser all the time either. Not when a good hearted fancier is determined to win a race.

A great determination with a positive mind and an excellent "sky warrior" can have a positive if not near impossible results. Like a 20 minute win in a prestigious combine or a stunning unbelievable two hour ahead win in a 400 mile race. It's impossible! Is the most common expression. Instead of feeling happy and congratulating the winner. We usually give a big doubt for the winner's incredible win. Regardless if the win is just a mere "luck". It was still a "win".

No matter what we do nobody likes a winner. That is the fact in America and that is the fact through out the whole pigeon world. Is there hope for a change? If a positive change can be achieved, then and only then can we call each other true brothers in the pigeon sport.