



CODE OF PRACTICE FOR BIRD SALES – 31st October 2014.

A. GENERAL

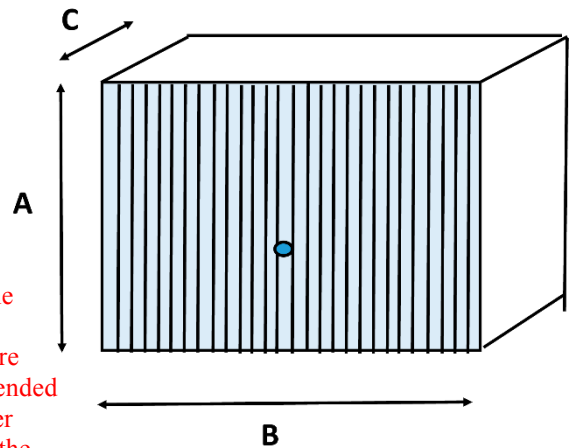
1. This code applies to all avicultural species presented at bird sales.
2. Bird sales are open to all members of the public.
3. Organisers of the Bird Sale are to provide clearly identified stewards that are familiar with this code of practice and are to be in continuous attendance at the venue. A copy of this code of practice is to be displayed in a prominent position at the entrances of the bird sale venue, and copies are to be made available.
4. Stewards have the right to refuse entry to the venue to any person or bird or cage in breach of this code of practice.
5. Bird sales are to be limited to a maximum of four hours and it is recommended that all bird sales start at 11 am and finish no later than 3 pm.
6. Only birds and related items are to be made available at bird sales. Other vertebrate species are not permitted.
7. For the safety of birds, with the exception of assistance dogs, other animals including dogs are not permitted to enter the venue, whether on leash, unleashed, contained or carried.
8. There is to be no selling of birds prior to the commencement of the sale.
9. Sale cages containing birds are to be sight covered to prevent pre-selling. Removal of covers is to take place no sooner than 15 minutes before the advertised starting time of the sale unless directed by the stewards to allow them to check compliance with the code of practice for bird sales.
10. Birds being transported to and from bird sale venues are to be carried in an enclosed but well ventilated vehicle.
11. It is recommended that all clubs holding bird sales take prior bookings from all sellers. All sellers are to be made aware of the “Revised Bird Sales Code of Practice” to ensure compliance with the said code and that the code will be strictly enforced by the stewards.
12. Photographing of birds is NOT permitted without the permission of the stewards and bird owners.
13. Entry is conditional upon compliance with the above code of practice for all persons entering the said venue (including buyers, sellers and traders).

B. CAGES

1. **Recommended** cage sizes and bird numbers per **table** as below:

Note:

- Over-crowded cages will not be accepted.
- Airfreight cages shall not be used
- **Variations in sizes of cages will be accepted providing that there is 5cm clearance around the birds when on the perch to prevent overcrowding.**
- **If more birds than the listed number are to be placed in the cage, it is recommended that the cage size be increased in either width or depth by 50% depending on the direction of the perch.**



| Size of Bird (Approx length) | No. of Birds | Min Height A | Min Width B | Min Depth C |
|--|---|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Up to 100mm Eg Finch Small Canary | 6 | 200mm | 250mm | 150mm |
| 100-200mm Budgerigar Small parrot Eg Neophema Varied Lorikeet Large Canary Lovebird Diamond Dove King Quail | 4 | 300mm | 300mm | 150mm |
| 200-300mm Eg. Rosella Conure Cockatiel Rainbow lorikeet Masked Dove | 2 | 350mm | 350mm | 200mm |
| 300-400mm African Grey Amazon Ringneck Bleeding heart pigeon | 1-2 Depending On species | 450mm | 400mm | 250mm |
| 400-500mm Eg. King Eclectus Princess Cockatoos | 1-2 Depending On species | 550mm | 400mm | 350mm |
| 500+mm Large Cockatoo Macaw | 1 | 800mm | 600mm | 500mm |

2. All-wire cages are not permitted to be use by either sellers or buyers to contain birds. If necessary, these cages can be modified for use by enclosing the top, bottom and three sides with a draft proof solid material. Cloth is not acceptable.
3. Every buyer of birds should provide containers suitable for the species that are intended to be purchased.
4. The bottom of all cages are to be a minimum of 70cm above the floor level of the venue.
5. Only freshly cleaned and well-presented cages are acceptable, must be free from dirt, dust, old droppings and old stale food and should be a light colour inside (eg. white, light blue, light green).
6. Cages are to have:
 - Perches available suitable for the species within (quail and ground dwelling birds excluded). Removable perches may be used to assist with the catching of birds.
 - Suitable material on the cage floor to prevent soiling of the birds feathers
7. Commercial trades people are permitted to sell new all wire cages as part of their goods. Birds are not permitted to be placed in these cages at the sale. All-wire cages purchased must be removed from the sale venue immediately after purchase and must not be taken into the area where the birds are being sold.
8. Sellers must present their birds with an adequate supply of fresh, clean water, seed and /or other appropriate food for the species contained within suitable vessels for the species for the entire period of the sale. This must be done within 30 minutes of benching their birds. Organisers/Stewards of the bird sale MUST ensure compliance.
9. Birds are only to be confined to a transport/display cage for a maximum period of twenty – four hours.

C. VENUE

1. The venue is to be fully roofed and to be able to be securely closed off to enable the containment of any bird due to accidental escape so that the bird can be re-captured. Bird sale organisers are to provide a minimum of two suitable catching nets suitable for the height of the venue to enable the owners or any sanctioned helper(s) to recover any escaped bird. Birds cannot be caught during the sale unless special permission is sought from the bird sale co-ordinator.
2. Lighting levels within the venue are to be conducive to clearly view the birds within their display cage.
3. Bird sales are to be deferred or cancelled if the ambient dry-bulb temperature is predicted to reach 32°C or above on the day of the sale.
4. The predicted temperature to be used will be the regional temperature of the closest locality to the bird sale as advertised on the ABC evening television news on the day before the sale. All bird sales advertising should warn members of the public of this condition.
5. Bird sale organisers must obtain Public Liability Insurance of at least \$20 million dollars and all incidents, accidents and injuries must be reported to and recorded by the sale organisers and /or ambulance officers if present.

D. BIRDS

1. Only birds in good health, sound physical condition fully feathered and self-sufficient may be offered for sale. The organisers reserve the right to have a steward or recognised Avian Veterinarian inspect any or all of the birds offered for sale by a seller and, at its sole discretion, shall (upon the advice of the Steward/Veterinarian) determine if the birds shall be allowed to be presented for sale.
2. Only one species of bird is permitted per cage.
3. Birds that have been sold by pre-arrangements must not be put on display or exchanged prior to the advertised start time of the bird sale.
4. Poultry (except quail) & domestic pigeons are not permitted in the sale.

E. REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

1. Any person in possession of native birds requiring a licence is to produce their wildlife licence and record book to authorised officers of the Department of Environment and Primary Industries or members of the Victorian Police.
2. Upon transfer of native birds subject to licence, both buyer and seller are to sight and exchange licence details.
3. All licensed native birds sold at bird sales are to be recorded on the Department of Environment and Primary Industry survey forms. These forms MUST be returned at the finish of the sale to the bird sale organisers.
4. The sale of crossbred hybrid native species is not permitted.
5. Purchase of non-licensed birds: It is the buyer's responsibility to obtain the name and details of the seller as required.

F. DISCLAIMER

1. The Victorian Avicultural Council Inc; its affiliates, its officers and or its committee shall not be responsible for the health or welfare of any birds sold, transferred and /or purchased by any person, where the health of that bird proves to be defective or not up to the standard anticipated by the purchaser.
2. The Victorian Avicultural Council Inc; its affiliates; its officers and or its committee shall not be held responsible for any disease or virus that are transferred by way of any goods sold, transferred and/or purchased at a bird sale organised by the Victorian Avicultural Council Inc or its affiliates.
3. The Victorian Avicultural Council Inc; its affiliates; its officers and or its committee shall not be held responsible for any disease or virus transferred from a bird to a human being by a bird which has been purchased, transferred and or sold at a bird sale organised by the Victorian Avicultural Council Inc; or its affiliates.

Contacts listed on the following web page

<http://avicouncil.com/VAC%2013a/vacoff.htm>