

# Thorsten DAUM Victoria Falls



## PLAN 2018/2019 AT A GLANCETD

Final race	26 January 2018 (410 km as advertised)
Sale of top performers	to follow as soon as is practical
Race series of remaining birds (entry fees, pay-outs & rules to be announced)	May to June 2018 - 600 km (373 miles)
Sale of birds	to follow as soon as is practical

## RACE SEASON ANNUALLY FROM HERE ON - guaranteed prize money pay-out of US\$1 000 000 (split below)

(Amendments to terms and conditions will be publicised in due course)

Bird intake & quarantine for 2019 season	May to September 2018 (2018 rings)
Settling, orientation & training	November 2018 to January 2019
Body moult	January 2019 to March 2019
Training	Mid-March to end April 2019
Racing	May to July 2019
Final race	End of July 2019 - 600 km (373 miles)
Bird intake for 2020 season	May to Sep 2019 (2019 rings)

## **Reasons2018/2019 for the changes explained in more detail**

The summer racing (with a January final) has extremes of conditions. The prevailing wind is a head wind and it is very often blistering hot. The average high is 30 °C (86 °F) with temperatures reaching 40 °C (104 °F). December and January are the height of the annual rains with thunderstorms and heavy downpours.

The maximum race distance has to be restricted under these conditions. Pigeons that escape and hide from the numerous hawks cannot fly back once the daytime temperature climbs. They are also easy prey when suffering from heat fatigue. The pigeons that have escaped from hawks fly back late in the afternoon or the next day once the temperature subsides, or they fail to return.

Because of the extreme heat in October and November the days available for training and racing are restricted to early morning and longer training flights only start from late

November after some rain has fallen. There is not enough time for proper preparation of the pigeons for a final in January. As the birds start their body moult in January a delay even of 2 weeks is not suitable.

The breeding season of some of the most dangerous raptors (for our pigeons) is during the annual rains and they feed prolifically over this period whilst they hunt for food for their young. Breeding mostly finishes at the end of the rains in April. Some of the migratory raptors also leave the region at this time making it safer for pigeons from April onwards.

A change away from these extremes in weather and high raptor activity will give the pigeons a fairer chance and a better opportunity to show their potential. Training and racing in moderate temperatures where the average maximum in July is 17 °C (63 °F) with almost zero rain is much more suitable for pigeon racing. This is the traditional time for pigeon racing in Zimbabwe where the degree of racing difficulty is increased by flying further distances. We will therefore have our final from 600 km (373 miles) which will still be tough and fair test of the quality of the pigeons.

We sincerely hope that this will be supported by you and hope for a successful conclusion to this year's programme.

## **PRIZE MONEY US\$1 000 000**

### **2019 RACE SERIES**

Intake 2018 Final race approx. 600km (372 miles) 2019

#### **Final Race**

**US\$756,000**

Place	No of prizes	Prize Money	Total pay-out
1st	1	225,000	225,000
2nd	1	125,000	125,000
3rd	1	75,000	75,000
4th	1	50,000	50,000
5th	1	30,000	30,000
6th	1	15,000	15,000
7th	1	12,500	12,500
8th	1	10,000	10,000
9th	1	9,000	9,000
10th	1	7,000	7,000
11th - 15th	5	2,500	12,500
16th - 30th	15	2,000	30,000
31st - 50th	20	1,500	30,000
51st -100th	50	1,000	50,000
101st - 200th	100	750	75,000

#### **Ace Bird (5 Hotspots & Final)**

**US\$78,000**

Place	No of prizes	Prize Money	Total pay-out
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1st Ace	1	25,000	25,000
2nd Ace	1	15,000	15,000
3rd Ace	1	10,000	10,000
4th - 10th Ace	7	4,000	28,000

### Hotspot Races (5 Races)

**US\$135,000**

Place	No of prizes	Prize Money	Total pay-out
1st	5	5,000	25,000
2nd	5	3,000	15,000
3rd	5	2,000	10,000
4th - 20th	85	1,000	85,000

### Best Bird (all online flights)

**US\$31,000**

Place	No of prizes	Prize Money	Total pay-out
1st	1	10,000	10,000
2nd	1	8,000	8,000
3rd	1	6,000	6,000
4th - 10th	7	1,000	7,000

## Annual Race Program (provisional) May to July

	Km	Miles	
week 1	100	62	
week 2	150	93	
week 3	200	124	Hotspot 1
week 4	250	155	Hotspot 2
week 5	300	186	Hotspot 3
week 6	100	62	
week 7	400	248	Hotspot 4
week 8	100	62	
week 9	450	279	Hotspot 5
week 10	100	62	
week 11	600	372	Final Race

# **Quarantine & shipping dates (provisional dates for breeding purposes)**

## Dutch Quarantine and Veterinary Services - Netherlands

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2018

## Shipping dates to Zimbabwe through respective agents World Wide

1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018

4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018

2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018

6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018

3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018