Birdathon Rules

I. Competition Date and Deadline

A. Birdathon Competition Date: Saturday, May 9, 2020 with a rain date of Saturday, May 16, 2020.

B. Turn in your team’s official birder roster and preliminary estimated fundraising goal ($250/team minimum) to the Birdathon Coordinator by March 15, 2020. This gives Audubon time to build your team’s webpage. The sooner you submit your information, the sooner your webpage will be ready for action.

C. Pledge sheets for your team must be in by 5pm on Friday May 8, 2020. This gives Audubon time to determine the winning team for most money raised, to be awarded at the Bird Bash.

D. Teams may bird for a 24-hr period (12am-11:59pm) on the day of the Birdathon.

E. Team reports and checklists are due at the Bird Bash (tally rally) on Sunday, May 17 by 5:00 PM. Reports and checklists may also be emailed to dan.scheiman@audubon.org.

II. Competition Objectives

Audubon Arkansas’s BirdLR Birdathon is a team effort with the following objectives:

A. Raise money for Audubon Arkansas. Funds raised this year will support Audubon Arkansas’s bird conservation and environmental education work.

B. Identify as many bird species as possible during the count period.

C. Expand community involvement and increase public awareness of birds and birding in Central Arkansas.

III. Competition Rules

Participating teams must abide by the following rules in order to be eligible for prizes:

A. Two or more participants constitute a team. No more than five people per team. An individual cannot bird for more than one team. Birds reported must be identified by at least two team members. For teams consisting of only two members, both must see or hear each bird.

B. Team members may come and go during the day, but all team members present must stay within hearing distance of one another during their count and make every reasonable effort to ensure all team members either see or hear each species counted by the team. No solo birding.

C. All birds counted must be within Pulaski County and surrounding counties (Faulkner, Lonoke, Jefferson, Grant, Saline, and Perry Counties).

D. Birds can be identified either by sight or by sound.
E. Birds must be alive, wild, and unrestrained, including those attracted by audio recordings or feeders. Injured birds may be counted if wild and unrestrained. Eggs do not count as birds. Neither ornamental waterfowl nor escaped cage birds can be counted.

F. Count only full species as indicated on the official AAS checklist provided by Audubon Arkansas. Mark all your species and final species tally on this checklist and submit it at the Tally Rally.

G. You are encouraged to use social media to share your sightings during the event. #BIRDLR

H. Each team must raise or contribute a minimum of $250 to be eligible for prizes. Supporters can contribute prior to the Birdathon (online on the team’s web page, check via mail to 4500 Springer Blvd., Little Rock, AR 72206, or cash to be turned in at the Bird Bash) or pledge to contribute after the Birdathon by filling out a team’s pledge sheet. Online donations are preferred. Teams will periodically be informed of donations received via mail. Teams should note all donations and pledges on their pledge sheet(s).

I. Each participant should strive to maintain proper birding ethics at all times. Follow the American Birding Association’s Code of Birding Ethics. Abide by all endangered or threatened species laws and regulations. Obey posted property rules.

Birdathon Coordinator: Contact Dan Scheiman at dan.scheiman@audubon.org or 501-244-2229.