

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE



BIRD CONSERVATION CHALLENGE (Level I) Teams

New Jersey Audubon introduced a World Series of Birding app in 2016 to allow teams to input their official WSB tally through a team member's handheld phone. Teams who wish to compete in the Bird Conservation Challenge, Zeiss Youth Challenge or Senior Challenge **MUST** use the WSB app. Teams in the NJ Audubon Ambassador Challenge are encouraged to use the app, but are not required to do so.

In order to compete in the Bird Conservation Challenge, **ALL** team members must be over 18 years of age .

A team participating in the Bird Conservation Challenge (LEVEL I) must designate which category they are participating in for the World Series of Birding. These categories define their Playing Field, and each team can only compete in one category. All participants must abide by WSB Rules; individual categories may have additional requirements.

1 Category One: ENTIRE STATE

New Jersey is small in stature – only 166 miles long from High Point in the northwest to Cape May Point (below the Mason-Dixon Line) in the South. At its widest point, New Jersey measures only 57 miles. The entire state is only 7,500 square miles. But it's packed with birds! New Jersey is an essential pit stop on the Atlantic flyway. From High Point to Cape May Point, teams may begin and end their route anywhere within the state of New Jersey.

2 Category Two: LIMITED GEOGRAPHIC AREA (LGA)

The “**Limited Geographic Area**” (LGA) category is open to any team that conducts its birding in one **single** New Jersey county.

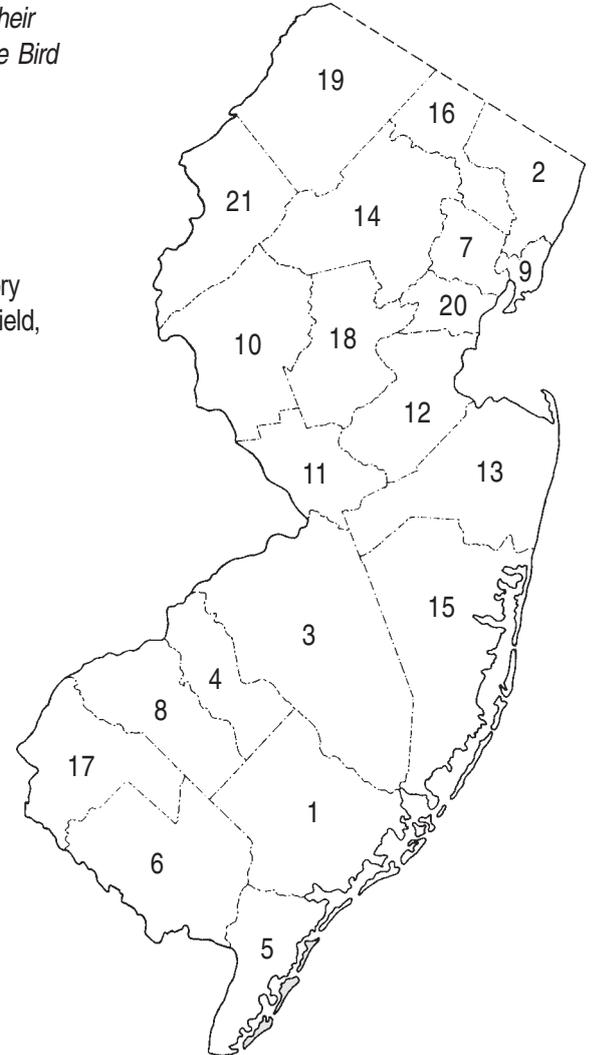
The LGA Award is for the team that achieves the highest percentage of par for a single county. A par value, the number of species likely to occur in a given New Jersey county in early May, has been established for each county and they are listed below. To be clear, team totals will be compared not as absolute values but as a percentage of the established county par.

Example: Team A birds Cape May County and records 180 species. Par is 201. Team B birds Passaic County and records 140 species. Par is 151. Team B wins! They recorded 93% of par. The Cape May County team achieved 85% of par!

A county par value will be raised only if the par is achieved or beaten. If the par is beaten, the par will be increased to the midpoint between the current par and the team's new record. We will "round up."

Example: The fictional Splendiferous County par was 100, and Team Birddog won the LGA in 2016 with 104 species, so the par was raised to 102 for 2017.

All pars were analyzed and revised in Winter 2015-2016.

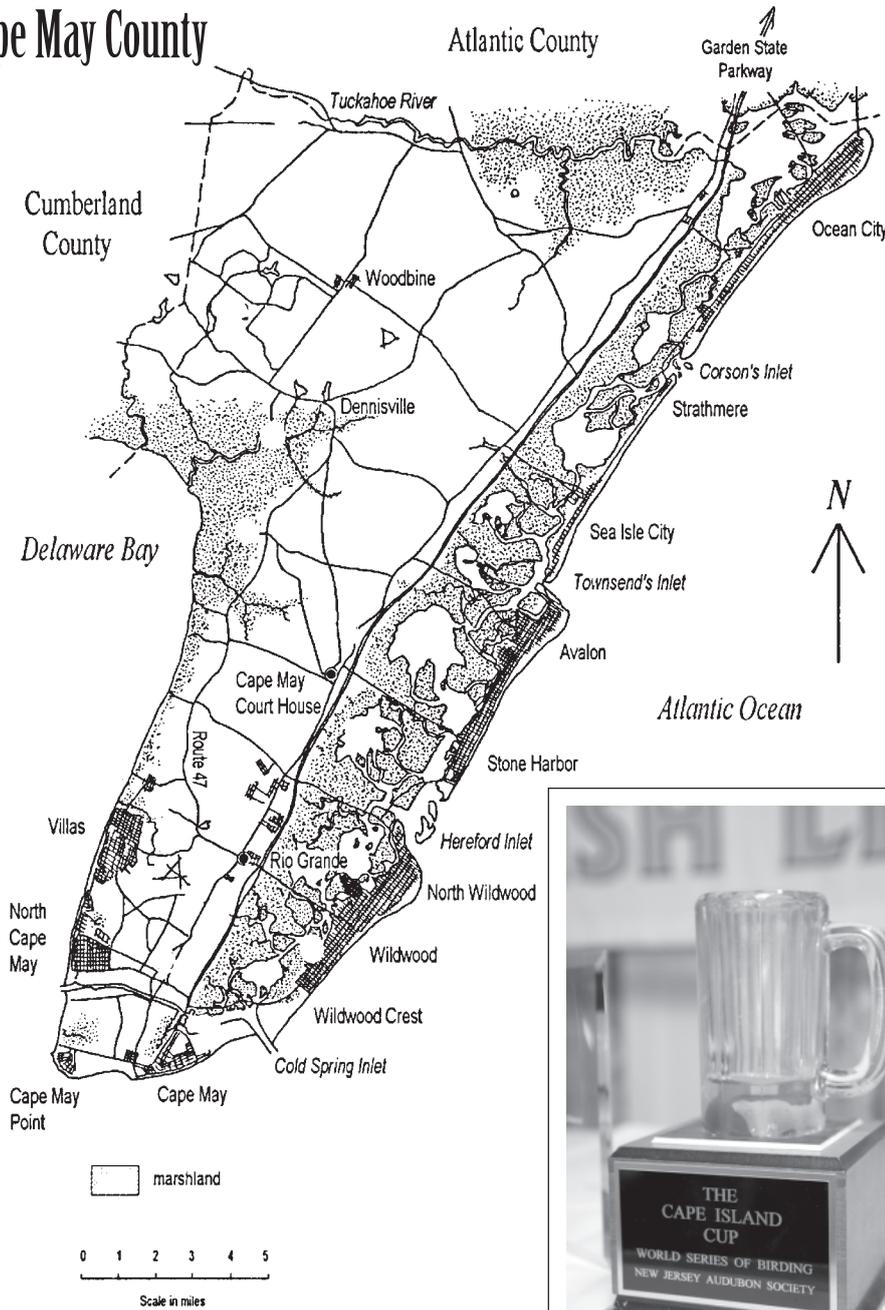


LGA County Cup Par Values - 2018 Alphabetical List

COUNTY	PAR	COUNTY	PAR
1. Atlantic	193	12. Middlesex	159
2. Bergen	163	13. Monmouth	190
3. Burlington	151	14. Morris	149
4. Camden	129	15. Ocean	179
5. Cape May	201	16. Passaic	151
6. Cumberland	179	17. Salem	175
7. Essex	137	18. Somerset	150
8. Gloucester	145	19. Sussex	175
9. Hudson	156	20. Union	148
10. Hunterdon	144	21. Warren	163
11. Mercer	152		

$$\text{SPECIES} \div \text{PAR} = \% \text{ OF PAR}$$

Cape May County

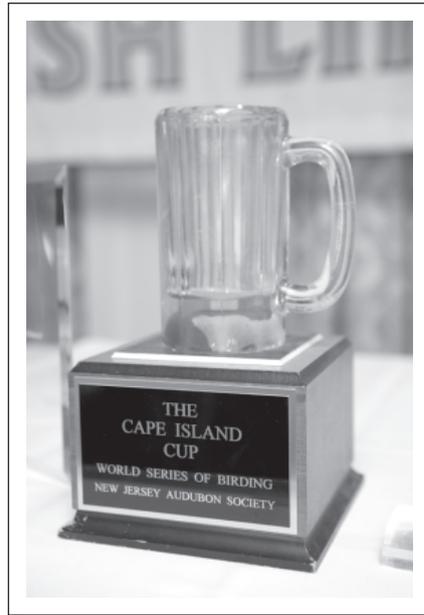


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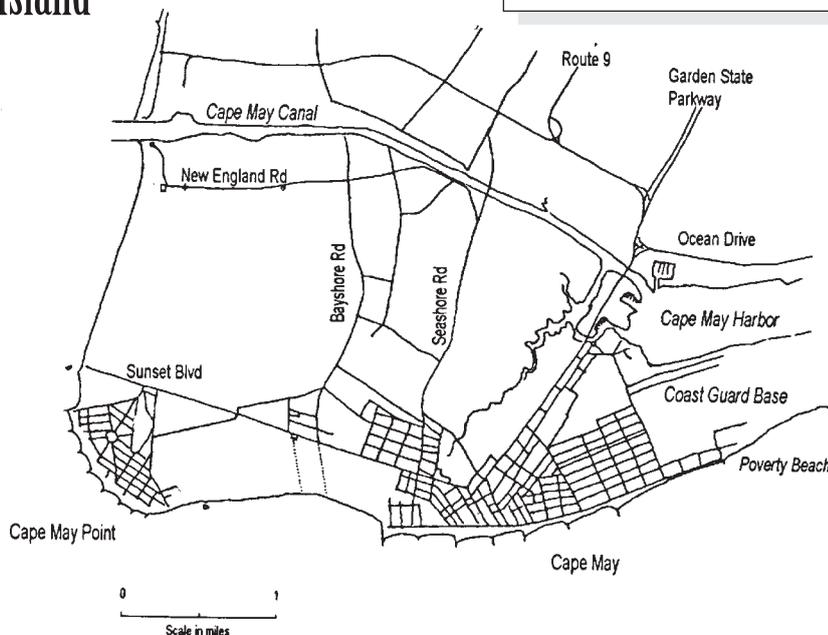
Category Three: CAPE MAY COUNTY ONLY

Best known for its vast concentrations of migrants, over 400 species of birds have been recorded in Cape May County. More than 200 species have been seen in a single day – evidence of its everyday avian wealth. An array of habitat types and a wealth of protected natural areas make Cape May County and the Delaware Bayshore a birding spot for all seasons. Please note, a team may not compete in the Cape May County Only category and the Cape May County LGA. All teams must pick one category.



Category Four: SOUTH OF THE CANAL — CAPE ISLAND

Cape Island



The very tip of Cape May is separated by the rest of the Cape May Peninsula by the Intracoastal Waterway (also known as the Cape May Canal). Known locally as “Cape Island,” most of the 400+ species that have been seen in Cape May County have been seen here. A triangular wedge, Cape Island is about 6 square miles and contains birding hotspots like Higbee Beach, Hidden Valley, The Beanery, The Nature Conservancy’s South Cape May Migratory Bird Refuge (known simply as “The Mead-ows”), and Cape May Point State Park, to name a few.

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5 Category Five: BIG STAY

Our Big Stay is a lot like a Hawk Watch or Sea Watch because you stay in just one place – but you're looking for much more than hawks and seabirds. The object of the Big Stay is to tally as many bird species that your team can see or hear in a single day from a single position (defined as a 17-foot diameter circle).

BIG STAY RULES:

All competition rules and ethics apply along with the following:

1. Observations can only be made from within the borders of a count circle from any point in New Jersey, whose diameter does not exceed 17 feet. Once located and counting begins, the circle cannot be shifted. The same count circle must be used for the entire Stay.
2. Competing teams must consist of a minimum of 3 team members. There is no maximum (subject of course, to the limitations imposed by the law of physics relating to space and matter).
3. Only birds seen or heard and positively identified while team members are in the count circle may be counted (no leaving the circle for "ground-truthing").
4. Team members must remain in the count circle for as long as they choose to compete within the framework of the 24-hour count period. If any team member (or the team) leaves the circle for whatever reason, the team must call a "timeout." No bird recorded while a member(s) is/are absent may be counted.



6 Category Six:

Swarovski's CARBON FOOTPRINT CUP

When participating in the Swarovski Carbon Footprint Cup (CFC) teams can walk, run, bike, skate, row a boat, kayak, etc., but cannot use any mode of motorized transportation while finding species.

CARBON FOOTPRINT RULES:

All competition rules and ethics apply along with the following:

1. Under Rules of Competition, Exhibit B, Rule IV Travel (a & c) does not apply within the CFC category. Once a team is in place and has begun birding, no mode of motorized transportation may be used. Team members may walk, run, bike, skate, use any type of non-motorized boat (canoe, kayak, etc.) or any combination throughout the event. Motorized transportation may be used only up to the point when the team begins birding and after the team has stopped birding for the event.
2. Any species seen or heard while using motorized transportation cannot be counted.
3. Any CFC team member operating or riding in any motorized transportation during the course of the competition will disqualify the entire team. The exception would be as stated under Rule II Participants (c) as long as there is a minimum of three team members remaining.

