IS MY CHICKEN KOSHER?
COMMON SHAILEOS ON PACKAGED CHICKEN

**GENERAL**

- Breaks that occur before shechitah can cause a chicken to be a treifah. These breaks are bloody or have some other discoloration.
- When one brings a chicken to their rav for a shailah, it should be brought as it was found as this may affect the outcome of the shailah. One should not cut the chicken or remove the skin.
- In a package of pre-cut chicken, the pieces are mixed up from many different chickens; therefore, each piece is judged independently. If one piece is not kosher, the others still may be used.

**WING**

- A break in the outer two sets of bones does NOT make the chicken treifah. However, if there is reason to believe the break occurred before shechitah, the wing must be cut at the break, and that piece must be discarded.
- If the inner bone is broken and there is reason to believe the break occurred before shechitah, a rav should be consulted.
- If the inner bone was dislocated from the chicken's body, and there is reason to believe the dislocation occurred before shechitah, the chicken is not kosher.

**THIGH**

- If the bone is broken and there is reason to believe the break occurred before shechitah, the chicken is not kosher.
- If the thigh bone was dislocated from the pelvic bone and there is reason to believe the dislocation occurred before shechitah, the chicken is not kosher.
- If a kidney or part of a kidney is found in the chicken, it should be removed before the chicken is cooked. If it was not removed, the chicken is still kosher.

**DRUMSTICK**

- If the bottom half of the bone is broken and there is reason to believe the break occurred before shechitah, the chicken is not kosher.
- If the top half of the bone is broken and there is reason to believe the break occurred before shechitah, it is possibly not kosher and should not be used.

**BLOOD**

- Blood must always be removed and may not be eaten.
- Even when there are no broken or dislocated bones, and the chicken is clearly kosher, accumulated blood must always be removed and may not be eaten. Sometimes it is impractical to remove the blood from the wing, in which case one should remove those parts of the wing that are bloody.

For more information: call 410.484.4110 or visit www.star-k.org