

BICC Narbonne International section Winners report 2019

The penultimate race of the International series took place from Narbonne on the 29th July after a two day holdover due to thunderstorms in the northern area of France and Belgium. A total of 18094 birds were liberated at 6:15am UK time, into a clear blue sky with a light south east wind and a temperature of 19 degrees. Some fantastic performances were put up by the members of the BICC who sent their birds with a minimum distance of 560 miles out to the furthest fancier to time in at 655 miles.

Centre Section



First and second centre section 2nd 3rd Open was Mark Gilbert flying into Winkfield with a two year old grandson of "Southfield Supreme" 1st International Dax, and his Merit Award winner which qualified in 2018, was his second pigeon in the clock, she is a great hen having scored in six International races including 5th International Agen.

Paul Kelly (to the right) from Croydon came third section 4th Open with a three year old hen bred from his own distance bloodlines. This year she has flown all the BICC national and two International races being 11th section 13th Open from Pau on the 21st of June flying 559 miles, and now 4th Open Narbonne flying 580 miles. In the Greater Distance Club she took 1st place Narbonne so she was a fancied pigeon for Paul, who would like to congratulate Geoff Preece and son on winning the race outright and also Mark Gilbert on winning 1st centre section.

Paul Kelly 3rd & 4th CS Narbonne International 2019



East Section

Overall race winners Geoff and Clayton Preece won 1st and 3rd east section with “Nellie” usually raced on a widowhood system but for this race she paired to a hen and was sitting 8 day old eggs in the corner of the hens section.



As a yearling hen she flew the channel ten times but only up to 250 miles. This year she has flown the channel three times before being sent to BICC Cholet 300 miles, rested for two weeks and sent to Agen 502 Miles. She then had 3 weeks rest before going in the basket for Narbonne at 559 Miles. Their second bird home, being 3rd section is a two year old chequer cock raced on a widowhood system. This cock had exactly the same training as a yearling as 'Nellie' and the same preparation for Narbonne this year. He was their first pigeon from Agen and scored in the top 25% of 22,768 pigeons. His sire is a 50% Morsnowski 50% "Jack Jones" and "Wiggins" with the dam being a direct Bernd Morsnowski.



Mircea Liviu Dehelean 2nd ES BICC Narbonne International 2019

Second east section was Mircea Liviu Dehelean who timed the first yearling in the race, also winning 5th Open BICC flying 588 miles to his loft in Dartford. She is a sister to 1st Provincial Marathon Ace 2018 and 2nd Provincial Marathon Ace which also won 7th National Marathon and 16th National Marathon Ace respectively. Raced on the roundabout system in previous races she was set up to be sent sitting ten days on eggs for the Narbonne race and is bred from a Jan Polder sire with her dam being a cross between Jellema and Vervij De Hann.

North Centre

In the north centre section Mike Turner of Alconbury timed two birds, flying 655 miles to take 1st and 2nd section.



Mike Turner 1st & 2nd NC BICC Narbonne International 2019

Mike said "I sent three pigeons to Narbonne with the BICC last year and got two but just out of race time. So this year I decided to change the build up slightly to get them better prepared to take on the 655 mile journey. My pigeons were entered into one inland race with my club, then all went to Alencon with the BICC 273 miles on the 11th May, followed by Cholet, again with the BICC 368 miles on the 25th May, and finally Tarbes with the NFC 632 miles, at the end of June. On their return from Tarbes I chose the three pigeons I believed could tackle Narbonne at 655 miles, scheduled for the end of July. For the next four weeks all they did was rest with no more racing or training and were allowed to do as they pleased. Previously they had won 2nd and 5th section H from Tarbes with my 3rd choice being one of the pigeons that had flown Narbonne last year. Their feed was strickly monitored to ensure

they got the right amount of carbohydrates, fats and oils. All three went while sitting eggs, in fact the first pigeon home was sent on chipping eggs. I am very pleased to be the longest flyer to have verified”.



Mike Turner 1st & 2nd NC BICC Narbonne International 2019

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