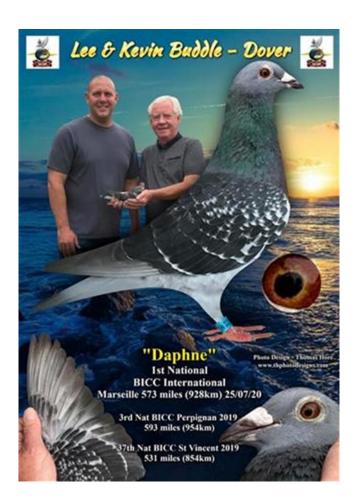
British International Championship Club

Marseille International Provisional Race Report

Marseille is situated in southern France on the Mediterranean coast. It is a major centre for trade and industry and is the second largest city in France. On Friday 24th July, 21 members sent 57 birds to join the international contingency of 8,236 birds. They were liberated at 5.45 BST, on Friday 24th July. Only seven pigeons made the result sheet by 1.08pm on Sunday 26th.

This report is based on member's verifications, the final result may differ.

1st Open and 1st South East Section, were L& K Buddle of Dover on 796ypm. The father and son partnership of Lee and Kevin Buddle of Dover, have over the past decade achieved great success at International level, when racing with the BICC. In 2019, they won Marseille and on Saturday 25th July at 9:53am, they timed a 4 year old hen to become the 2020 winners. This is what Lee had to say about the winner, "Our provisional 1st South East Section, 1st Open BICC Marseille International is a 4 year old hen we now call 'Daphne'. She was flown on our widowhood system all season in preparation for Marseille. She has been a reliable racing hen for us, having previously won 3rd Open, BICC Perpignan in 2019 and 37th BICC, St Vincent in 2019. Before Marseille she had Salisbury, 135 miles, BICC Falaise, 168 miles, BICC St Philbert, 265 miles, and a Combine race from Exeter, 214 miles. Her sire is a full brother to, Triple Two who was 1st Open BBC, Barcelona in 2019. Her dam is a daughter of, Elsa who was, 1st Open BICC, Narbonne in 2014, 557 miles. Our feeding is simple; we give the same mix at every feed. A mix made up of, Versele-Laga Superstar Plus and Versele-Laga, Best Allrounder. We add fats the last few days before race marking."



2nd Open & 1st North East Section, were A & T Wright of Norwich on 738ypm. The father and son partnership of, Allan and Tom Wright had a very good weekend of international racing. At 3.14pm on day two of the Marseille race, they timed a yearling hen who had flown a very impressive 670 miles to her loft. The day before, they clocked three to take 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Section Agen, from 600 miles. What a performance from the Norwich partnership! Allan had this to say about the yearling hen, "Her name is, Sylvia, and she was paired to another hen and was sitting on eggs for 10 days, when she was sent. She is bred from a pair of birds from the late David Hales and from Duncan Goodchild.



3rd Open & 5th Open, taking 2nd and 5th South East Section were G M Preece & Son of Dover on 696ypm and 451ypm. This is what Geoff had to say about the race, "Two from two, from Marseille. First in the clock was GB 17 D10251– a chequer cock raced on the widowhood system. Previous results include 19th National Agen and 6th National Narbonne. His pedigree is 75% Bernd Morsnowski x 25% Jack Jones/Wiggins. He is a grandson of, De Blauwe 212 who took, 1st National Olympiade Marathon in 2013. Our second pigeon, GB 17 D 10248, is another chequer cock raced on the widowhood system. He is a grandson to our Jack Jones cock (13 x Int. races). His pedigree is 50% Bernd Morsnowski 50% Inbred Jack Jones."



4th Open & 3rd South East Section were F Knowles & Son of Wingham on 538 ypm. Simon Knowles timed a 5 year old bird, of McClaren an x H. Dale's bloodlines. He was a full brother to '06' who was 36th Open St Vincent in 2018 and 38th Open St. Vincent in 2019. He was sent sitting eggs for 7 days and was prepared with BICC races from Falaise and St. Philbert.



6th Open & 5th South East Section were Lynden Bros of Sandwich on 446ypm. John had this to say about his pigeon, "This 2016 bred hen was in its 2nd International race of its hopefully long career. Last year it was sent to the Perpignan International and was clocked late in race time. However, our experience has been that the first international race tends to determine whether a pigeon has the ability to survive at international level. It doesn't matter too much where it finishes in the result, only that it is in race time and the pigeon's stamina remains intact. This hen certainly met that criteria! Her breeding is a cross, with the sire's side being the blood of our old family of pigeons on the line of, Corporal. He was a pigeon that was a multi prize winner at BICC international races a few years ago. The dam was purchased from John Halstead and was an inbred double granddaughter of, Ashley. John's second BBC, Barcelona prize winner. "In preparation for the race, John explained that she was paired until June and then separated, except for short spells, where she was permitted to spend time with her mate after returning from races and trainers. Her only channel preparation race this year was Messac with the BBC, where she was 268th Open. Normally John would not consider this enough preparation for an international race but this year he had little choice. John concluded, "This is a hen with a lot of character and Marseille is certainly the race to put that character to the test."



7th Open & 6th South East Section were J Nicholson & Son, on 426ypm. John Nicholson's pigeon was a 5 year old blue chequer hen, called Polly, who was on her 8th international and she is a previous BICC, Award of Merit winner. John said this of her performance, "In 2017 she flew three international races in the same season, winning 35th Pau, 13th St. Vincent and 6th Perpignan. In 2018 she was 91st Pau and 5th Marseille. Then in 2019, she was 82nd Pau and 20th Marseille. Before flying Marseille this year, she went to Falaise and St. Philbert. She is bred down through top Palamos and Barcelona pigeons, many of whom are Spanish Diploma winners in the British Barcelona Club.



Overall International Winner

The overall international winner was from Germany, Koers Karl-Heinz of Mandelbachtal. The pigeon was clocked on Friday at 17:16 CEST after a race of 664.918 km, achieving an average velocity of 1053.7 m/min.



1st International Koers Karl-Heinz

Mike Jackson BICC Press Officer Email:mike.jackson026@hotmail.com