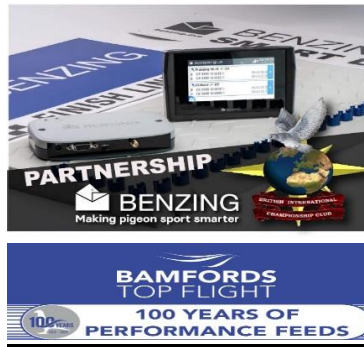


British International Championship Club



Guernsey Young Bird National Provisinal Race

Report 19th August 2023

The BICC opening race of the young bird season was from Guernsey. Guernsey gives many pigeons the opportunity to fly over water in preparation for the channel races from France later in life. Guernsey is situated approximately 70 miles south of the English coast. The race offers members the opportunity to fly from upwards of 90 miles in the south, to over 250 in the northern sections.

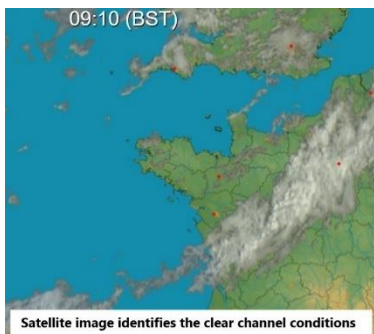
For the young bird race, each section sent the following: South Centre, 77 members sent 1,118 birds, South East 46 sent 656 birds, South West 18 sent 226, North Centre 4 sent 64, North East 2 sent 11 and in the North West 8 members sent 266 birds. In total, 153 members sent 2,156 birds.

An Any Age race also took place at the same time as the young bird race, where 127 members sent 1,050 birds that were liberated at the same time. The total birdage, including the old birds, was 3,206 birds and they are liberated at 7.45am.

The weather/race report

Steve Appleby, the BICC race and weather advisor, provided the following report:

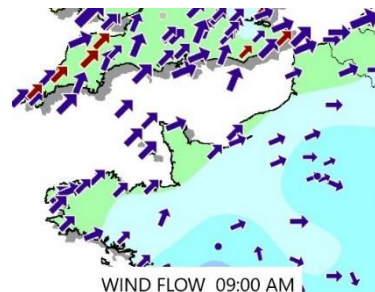
It was a refreshing change to receive a forecast for this BICC race from Guernsey with no weather complications. On Friday evening our convoyers on site welcomed the good news that Saturday would be a good racing day. As forecast, Saturday morning broke over Guernsey under clear blue skies. The convoy was released at 07:45 into a fresh S/W wind soon disappearing from sight heading out to sea towards the channel. The flight path to the English south coast across the channel was under mainly clear skies which is supported by the captured satellite image. The picture taken from St Helier south of Guernsey shows almost clear skies and the good visibility over the region. As expected, a fast race ensued with high velocities recorded.



Guernsey map



St Helier



Wind flow map

This report is based on member's first bird verifications and the final result may differ.

The Provisional Open winners, taking 1st South East Section were M & D Allen of Hockley on 2111 over 202 miles. The delighted partnership said, 'Our winning pigeon is bred from a son of Stefaan Lambrechts KDBD winner, Lincia, that we purchased on Pipa x a daughter of M & D Evans National ace pigeon Ace of Aces. The father had already bred a 1st & 2nd fed winner for our friends Topp & Mann and now a National winner for ourselves. He was trained to approximately 35 miles daily and had flown 3 races prior to entering the National. We had been flying mainly sprint pigeons for the past couple of years but was lucky enough to secure 4th National in this race last year. That gave us the bug and we introduced some middle-distance pigeons at the end of last season. We thought we had a good pigeon on the day but to find out we had actually won the National was an unbelievable feeling. We would like to say a big thank you to all the members in the strong Hullbridge club who make racing pigeons such an enjoyable hobby.'



Dave Allen



M & D Allen National Winners



Michael Allen

The Provisional South East Section Winners

2nd South East Section, 3rd Open was Damian Szpak of Dpetford on 2052 over 173 miles. The consistent top section performer said, 'I had 2 birds arrived together, but one wasn't mine and made it difficult to clock my young bird which ended up 3rd Open. The young cock bird's is line bred with his sire being a half-brother to Queen 85 that won for me, 13th Open BICC Guernsey last year. His dam is granddaughter of Queen 85, who is the mother of my loft. After the NFC Tarbes, I opened the section with my young birds so they had access to all the loft together with old birds. Congratulations to the winners.'

3rd South East Section, 6th Open was John Cowlin of Hullbridge on 2029 over 202 miles. John wanted to congratulate the winners of the old bird and young bird races. John took 2nd Section in the AA race. John's first young bird, taking 3rd Section, 6th Open carries very similar bloodlines to his old hen, being a grandchild of Rekkem 083, the super full brother to the King & Queen of Rekkem. They

are also grandchildren of the Intel Smeulders cock, when paired to an inbred granddaughter of the Prince of Rekkem, being from a son of the Dream Pair, when paired to a daughter of the Prince of Rekkem and Guernsey Princess.



Damian Szpak



John Cowlin

The Provisional South Centre Section Winners

1st South Centre Section, 2nd Open were Wearn Bros & Neilson of Ramsdean on 2083 over 123 miles. The first bird the partnership timed was a Vandenabeele, bred for them by D & J Hawkins.

2nd South Centre Section, 4th Open was Paul Basham of Bursledon on 2047 over 110 miles. Paul reported that he was very pleased with the performance of their bird. The sire is 100% Jelle Jellema being bred from a son of Romee x son of Miss Gijse when paired to a daughter of Jill. Jill won 2nd International Perpignan. The dam was bred by David Coward Talbot, with the sire being a grandson of Topstar x Diva. The dam being a direct daughter of Champion Chopper, 100% Andre Roodhofs, when paired to, 'De Future National' Original Daniel Aerens. He wanted to pass on his congratulations to the winners, M & D Allen and Mr and Mrs Waterhouse on two great performances.

3rd South Centre Section, 5th Open was Mark Gilbert of Winkfield, Windsor on 2037 over 157 miles. Mark continued his impressive season taking 3rd Section with the young birds and the pedigree of this young pigeon demonstrates, if needed, the quality of birds that he keeps in his loft. Mark also took, 2nd Section in the AA race.



1st Section bird for Wearn Bros & Neilson



Paul Basham



Pedigree of Mark Gilbert's bird

The Provisional South West Section Winners

1st South West Section, 33rd Open was Lanahan & Gerard Loft 2 of Poole on 1927 over 91 miles. Danny said, 'We would like to say well done to the winners and our good friends Jimmy and Eric in second place. It was a great race to start of the young bird season, provisionally 1st, 2nd and 3rd Section. Being the first race for these youngsters we are really pleased with how they came as a team getting 17/20 home. Our first pigeon is a grandson of our top breeding cock Zwarte Louders, when paired to a granddaughter of Harry. The second was a grandson of our Dark Flo, 1st CSCFC Coutances and the third being a daughter of our 1st BICC winner, Granddaughter Lady 300. So, all the top blood coming to the top.'

2nd South West Section, 74th Open was Leigh Sheppard of Bath on 1697 over 132 miles. Leigh was super happy to have clocked his hen from Guernsey and said, 'Honestly, I expected them to go straight into the east on Saturday with that wind behind them, so I was chuffed she broke, although she did come back from the east, so went a little over. The sire is a direct Jos Thone coming down from a half-brother to Billy, 1st Prov ACE KBDB 18 and Kajo, 1st Prov ACE bird, Speed KBDB 2014. The dam was gifted to me 2 years ago as a young bird by Chris Baxter, coming down from a son of George's Boy, 1st Open NEHU Futurity race 2018. And Richie's Girl carrying Soontjen x Leo Heremans blood. I would like to thank Chris for his generosity, as the other hen won 1st Section National 2021 and this one has bred me a couple of winners now.'

3rd South West Section, 87th Open was John Halstead of Kington Magna on 1617 over 103 miles. Taking provisionally 3rd SW Section is John Halstead with a young chequer cock flown on widowhood, having his first ever race. He is from a Jan Willems bred cock down from Arjan Beans, Mr Beautiful/Olympic Miss Gijsje bloodlines to a double granddaughter of Mark Gilbert's ace breeder Golden Barcelona. Six birds were sent, and all were home by 1.30 pm, and this with regular training but no previous racing.



Lanahan & Gerard



Leigh Sheppard



John Halstead

The Provisional North Centre Section Winners

1st North Centre Section, 38th Open was David Paine of St Neots on 1877 over 212 miles. Topping the Section was David Paine who said, 'I managed to win NC Section with a son bred from the hen which is a Lambrecht cross Syndicate Lofts that won both of the young bird BICC races last year. She was paired to a cock that was 11th Open, 3rd Section BICC last year as a yearling. She is bred the same way as my MNFC winner.'

2nd North Centre Section, 73rd Open was Reg Wright of Wellingborough on 1704 over 209 miles. Reg timed a Van Loon hen. She was 4th club the week before from Blandford. Her sire has bred 3 x 1st Fed winners plus many other prize winners. Her dam is a full sister to Paula, 2nd Open, 1st Section

Falaise BICC. She is a dam to 2 x 1st fed plus proving herself in the stock loft. She is also related to 3rd, 6th and 8th Open Poitiers BICC.

3rd North Centre Section, 81st Open was John Black of Hitchin on 1653 over 200 miles. John said, 'The bird I timed in is a chequer hen who went showing out to a young cock. The sire and dam are both Jamie Clarke specials, from the Snelling loft in Kent. Both have scored well for me in National races. The sire was my second bird from Tarbes last year as a yearling, winning 8th Section. Well done to all the section winners. I'm pictured with my friend Len Petchey, who is holding the chequer hen, he wanted to see her. I have also sent a photo of Len's loft from 1940 when he lived in Leytonstone, east London and a photo of his favourite mealy cock.'



David Paine



Reg Wright's bird



John Black & Len Petchey



Len Petchey's favourite mealy cock



Len Petchey's 1940 loft

The Provisional North East Section Winners

1st North East Section, 137th Open was David Fisher of Ipswich on 676 over 240 miles. David said, 'Congratulations to all the winners and some great performances. Thanks to the markers at Basildon and Fred Cornwell I/C. I sent 10 old birds and had 8 returned, but they were a bit gappy. I also sent 6 young birds but only had one return and was pleased to see her. My bird is a blue hen from Macaloney lines and is a son of Supermac 76, when paired to a Mark Bulled's hen, direct from Bordeaux Queen.'



David Fisher's 1st Section bird

The Provisional North West Section Winners

1st North West Section, 52nd Open were Booth & Roper of Tewkesbury on 1780 over 173 miles. Trevor and John had a good day winning both sections in the AA and YB race. They missed seeing the birds come and trapping, the first they knew was when both their phones pinged telling them a bird had gone over the trap, thanks to their new Benzing system. The youngster is a blue chequer hen out of one of their good racing hens, Sportsview Diamond, 4th Section, 8th Open Saintes, 4th Section, 7th Open Norte sur Erdre. She was killed by a hawk back in April this year. The sire was bred by Alen Gibb for them on the lines of Ebony from Geoff and Catherine Cooper. They would like to congratulate the open winners M and D Allen, and all section winners. And give special thanks to Steventon. They always look forward to marking there and enjoy the bacon and sausage baps. With thanks to Esther and Jill, the super chefs!

2nd North West Section, 77th Open, were M & C Lee of Alfrick on 1680 over 184 miles. M & C Lee's young blue hen was sent just flying to her box on the light system. She had two Frome races with the fed at 68 miles prior to the BICC. She is bred from a pair of birds from Jeff Homer of Stourbridge. Mickey said, 'We had 3 birds out of 11 on the day all in good condition. Thanks to Mick Howard for transporting the birds to marking at Gwent and congratulations to all winners and Trevor & John on being 1st Section old and young birds.'

3rd North West Section, 93rd Open were Mr & Mrs N Shaw of Crew on 1578 over 246 miles. The partnership clocked a young bird send on eggs 4 days old. She was bred by their friend B Oakley out of a hen they gifted him. She is a granddaughter of the Bat. They sent 3 pigeons and timed them all.



Booth & Roper



M & C Lee



Mr & Mrs Shaw's bird

The Provisional Top Ten Open Positions:

1st M & D Allen of Hockley on 2111.929, 2nd Wearn Bros & Neilson of Ramsdean on 2083.354, 3rd Damian Szpak of Deptford on 2052.054, 4th Mr Paul Basham of Bursledon on 2047.728, 5th M Gilbert of Winkfield on 2037.131, 6th J Cowlin of Hullbridge on 2029.995, 7th Mr & Mrs Chaplin of Woking on 2028.493, 8th Chitty Bros of Kings Langley on 2025.616, 9th Kevin George May of Wallington on 2021.309, 10th D & J Novis of Brighton on 1844.061 2016.690.

Mike Jackson

BICC Press Officer

Email:mike.jackson026@hotmail.com

Tel:07964448291