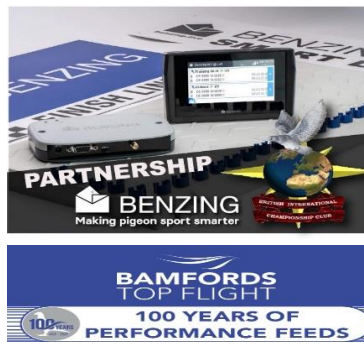


British International Championship Club



Dax International Provisional Race Report

14th July 2024

The fourth International took place from Dax on 14th July. Dax is a French city that was established by the Romans, and is today known as a spa destination, specialising in mud treatment for rheumatism and similar ailments. Dax is also known for its bullfighting culture, especially during the August ferias, one of the most crowded festival events in France with 800,000 people attending over five days.

At 6.10am on Sunday 14th July 8,566 pigeons were liberated into broken cloud and blue skies with light winds varying from east to southwest for the journey through France. The UK contingent consisted of 153 birds sent by 33 members. Each Section sent the following: South Centre, 14 members sent 53 birds, South East 13 sent 66 and in the South West, 6 members sent 34 pigeons.

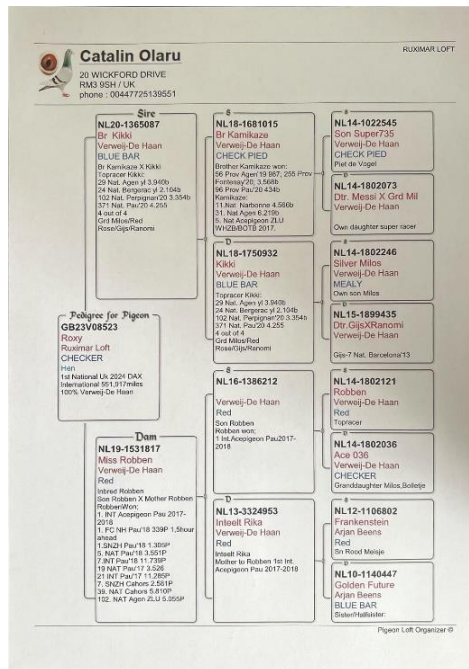
This report is based on member's verifications and the final result may differ.

1st South East Section, 1st Open was Catalin Olaru of Romford over 551 miles on 865. Catalin was also 4th Section, 4th Open on 791.

Catalin's hen was raced on the natural system and was sent sitting on 10-day old eggs. She had a few races with the North Thames and Southern Club, and she flew St. Just and Fontenay with the East of England Club. The long-distance bloodlines are evident in the yearling's pedigree. Catalin also took 4th Open on 791.



Catalin Olaru of Romford



National winner's pedigree

The Provisional South East Section Winners

2nd South East Section, 2nd Open & 3rd Section, 3rd Open were G M Preece & Son of Dover over 529 miles on 812 & 810. The ever consistent, long distance champion loft of Geoff and Clayton Preece timed, The Dax Devil, a small light chequer cock. He's one of our main pigeons in the race team having already raced from Barcelona twice and Perpignan three times. He is a direct daughter of our main breeding hen, The 168 (Wiggins half-sister) which makes him a half-brother to our 48 cock who was 2nd National Perpignan 2023. His father is the nest brother to our, Sunny Jim, 1st National Perpignan 2019.

Third National is one of our 2-year-old cocks on his first international race. He has one white flight at the end of his right wing just like his great-grandfather Jack Jones. His make up is 25% Bill Woodall's Dragon's Boy, 1st National Barcelona 2001 (Wiggins Grandfather) + 270 lines, 50% Raymund Hermes 270 lines through Barcelona 05 and 25% our own Jack Jones x Wiggins line, which also originates from the Stoffel Gr.Ophoff 270 lines. We are very happy with the whole teams' strong performance from this race after another challenging race for the UK. The whole team is raced on widowhood and will fly daily 1 hour plus in the morning and 1hour plus in the evening happily.



Geoff & Clayton's Dax Devil, on his return From Dax

The Provisional South Centre Section Winners

1st South Centre Section, 5th Open & 2nd Section, 6th Open was Mark Gilbert of Winkfield, Windsor, over 537 miles on 753 & 748. Congratulations to Catalin Olaru for winning the race with his fantastic yearling. We thought we could get day pigeons on Sunday night into the UK, but as seems to be the norm this season nothing made it home, so it was an early morning alarm call again. Something must have stopped them from coming across as there didn't seem to be any reason they would not do the same speeds as the birds being clocked in Europe. We have had reports there was heavy rain in France but not confirmed.

We sent four 2-year-old pigeons back that went to Pau on the 24th June and sent 18 yearling hens from the yearling loft that came so well Saturday from Bordeaux. We thought as the yearling cocks were buzzing Saturday out of Bordeaux the hens would make a good job of this today. They didn't, and we think it just goes to show the lack of experience pulling out of thousands of pigeons going the wrong direction, has shown just how hard international racing is, especially if you don't have the right team in. We were extremely disappointed with the returns on Monday as we had only clocked 8 out of the 25 sent.

Our first two timed will be provisionally 1st & 2nd Section, 5th & 6th Open. The first pigeon in the clock is a 2-year-old cock that was 32nd Open Pau on the 24th June and last year was 26th Grand National NFC Tarbes as a yearling. He is from a son of Hellas, 4th Nat Limoges and 7th National Bergerac and a daughter of, New Witbuik, 1st National, 6th International Barcelona 2012. Our second timer is a yearling hen from a son of Jef, 1st International Barcelona 16,051b 2019 paired to a daughter of Southfield Hugo, 1st National Perpignan 2017, 1st National Barcelona 2018 and Willeke, 1st International St Vincent 10,597b 2019.



Mark Gilbert's first arrival

3rd South Centre Section, 7th Open was Fred Hall & Dtrs of Worthing over 495 miles on 725. My blue widowhood cock, Foxgrove Consistent, taking 3rd Centre Section, 7th Open from Dax has put up a string of previous top performances. 7th Open BICC St Vincent, 28th Open BICC Pau, 91st Open BICC Pau, 20th Open BBC St Philbert, 47th Open BBC Tarbes, 180th Open BBC Guernsey, 23rd Open BBC St Philbert, 181st Open BICC St Philbert, 32nd Open NFC St Philbert, 195th Open NFC Tarbes. His breeding is Carteus x Syndicate lofts always raced on the widowhood system and from these performances, he has deserved his name as consistent!



Fred Hall's Foxgrove Consistent

The Provisional South West Section Winners

1st South West Section, 18th Open & 3rd Section, 22nd Open were D & J Staddon of Ditcheat over 519 miles on 688 & 666. Provisional 1st & 3rd West Section are Dave & John Staddon of Ditcheat. Dave reported, 'Congratulations to Catalin Olaru on his win and to all section winners and everyone who clocked on yet another difficult long-distance race this year. We can never remember a season where returns have been so challenging for most lofts. We are delighted to win the section again with a yearling cock flown on Chaos Widowhood and fed on Bamford's Staddon Chaos Mix. This yearling has been very consistent and currently sits close to the top of the NFC ace pigeons for the season. He is bred from one of our best pairs. Winters Gem x Blue Gem making him a full brother of Fahrenheit 4th Sec, 24th Nat Pau & 1st Sec, 2nd Nat Rieux Minervois and also Gemini 1st Sec, 4th Open NFC Tarbes, 1st Sec, 1st Open CSCFC Tarbes, 1st Sec, 1st Open BBC Tarbes and 2nd Sec, 11th Open BICC Perpignan. He will now be put away for next season.

Our second pigeon was our No 1 fancy. This 2-year-old cock flown on Chaos Widowhood has already won 21st Sec, 26th Nat BICC St Philbert 2797 birds 2023, he was disqualified from winning 3rd Section, 11th Nat BICC St Vincent on the day because we mistakenly did a full Benzing clock evaluation after our first two, day birds before he arrived late on the day, this 520-mile race was flown as a yearling. This year he was 3rd Section, 39th Nat BICC Pau in a very hard race to the west of the UK & 3rd Section, 22nd National BICC Dax. In preparation, he has flown Carentan CSCFC, Alencon BICC, Fougères NFC, St Philbert BICC, Messac NFC, Maidstone Three Counties, Pau BICC & Dax BICC. He is now being prepared for his 3rd International race of the season from Perpignan where he will bid to match our champion race cock BRB who won 27th Pau, 4th St Vincent & 5th Perpignan in 2023. We are in the early stages of trying to build a family that will consistently race at 500/600/700 miles three times in one season. The early signs are positive. He is 100% Staddon pigeon and is bred from 2 x 2022 late-breds we put to stock. Mercury Rising, the sire is from Fahrenheit 23rd Nat Pau & 2nd Nat Rieux Minervois in 2020 x Celsius 15th Nat Pau & 3rd Nat Rieux Minervois, so it's already in his blood to be able to do repeat trips to the internationals. The mother is from Gemstone, 1st Sec, 7th Nat NFC Tarbes x Miss St Vincent 1st Sec, 3rd Nat BICC St Vincent. We have now named him Kelvin'.



John & Dave Staddon 1st & 3rd West Section Dax International with their winning yearling cock bird

2nd South West Section, 20th Open & 4th Section, 26th Open was Nick Stevens of North Perrott over 503 miles on 677 & 599. Congratulations to the winners, and to Dave and John on winning the Section. My dark chequer cock flew St Vincent last year and this year went to St Philbert and Nort-sur-Edre with the BICC. He then went to Brighton and Eastbourne with the West of England Combine, 8 days before basketing for Brighton with the 3 Counties. He's bred from the race team and of the great Padfield family ancestry. Fed on Versa-Laga with quill boost in the water.



Nick Steven's Dk Cheq cock bird

The Provisional Top Ten Open Positions:

1st Catalin Olaru of Romford on 865.144, 2nd G M Preece & Son of Dover on 812.260, 3rd G M Preece & Son of Dover on 810.246, 4th Catalin Olaru of Romford on 791.012, 5th M Gilbert of Winkfield on 753.567, 6th M Gilbert on 748.133, 7th F Hall & Dtrs of Worthing on 725.762, 8th Mr & Mrs S Fear of Hayes on 724.816, 9th G M Preece & Son of Dover on 722.348, 10th L & K Buddle of Dover on 720.739.

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