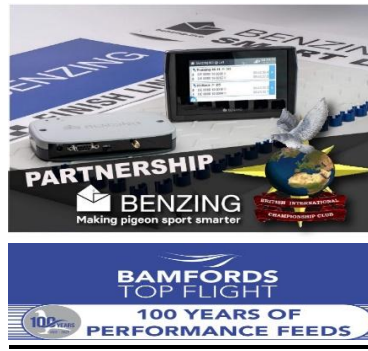


British International Championship Club



Season Winners 2026

The 2026 season delivered a memorable programme of National and International racing, with outstanding Open and Section performances across every region. This report celebrates the winners of each race and records the season's leading trophies, Ace awards, two-bird averages, sponsored prizes and final S G Biss Points Trophy standings.

Among the season's standout performances, Stuart Wilcox made an exceptional start to the National programme with consecutive victories from Alençon and Nort-sur-Erdre. Clive and Jill Rogers and Neil Sales secured an impressive International double by winning both Pau and Agen, while J P Halstead returned to National-winning form with a superb victory in a particularly difficult Bordeaux race. The two Isigny-sur-Mer events produced further notable successes: Clive Allwright & Son of Ashford won the Young Bird race, and Dave Heywood & Son of Laindon claimed the Old Bird honours and the BICC Special. Mark Gilbert also enjoyed another outstanding season, winning St Philbert and Barcelona, topping the S G Biss Points Cup with 415 points and securing several average trophies. Cristian Dumitru of Harrow added his name to the International winners with victory from Dax, before Catalin Olaru brought the programme to a fitting close with victory from Perpignan.

The 2026 BICC Dinner Presentation and Awards Evening, held jointly with the BBC and CSCFC pigeon clubs, will take place on Saturday, 21 November, at the Marsham Court Hotel, Russell Cotes Road, Bournemouth, BH1 3AB. It promises to be a special occasion when members and guests can come together to celebrate and congratulate the season's race and trophy winners. Tickets cost £45 per person and are available from Clare Norman, while accommodation should be booked directly with the hotel on 01202 552111. With only a limited number of tickets remaining, members are advised to book promptly. Those attending will also be able to collect any race diplomas during the presentation.



The Marsham Court Hotel

Before those achievements are celebrated at the presentation evening, we look back at how the National programme unfolded. Beginning at Alencon in May, the season featured a varied series of races that tested lofts across every Section, with the following review recording each Open winner, the leading Section performances and the principal trophies awarded.

Alencon — 9 May 2026

Stuart Wilcox of Bristol won 1st Open and 1st South West Section, receiving the B Long Trophy for the first National race. The section winners were Bartlett, Jones & Wells of Southampton in the South Centre Section; A & D Steer of Westerham in the South East Section; Purchase & Walker of Lichfield in the North Centre Section; D Downing of Suffolk in the North East Section; and David James of Wolverhampton in the North West Section.

Nort-sur-Erdre — 23 May 2026

Stuart Wilcox of Bristol won 1st Open and 1st South West Section, receiving the B Long Trophy for the second National race. The section winners were J Attrill & Sons of Southampton in the South Centre Section; M Bulled of Harlow in the South East Section; R Chambers of Rugeley in the North Centre Section; Kelvin Sharman of Syleham in the North East Section; and D Mruk of Cannock in the North West Section.

St Philbert — 7 June 2026

M Gilbert of Windsor won 1st Open and 1st South Centre Section and received the Mark Kidby Memorial Trophy. The other section winners were L & K Buddle of Dover in the South East Section; D Gruzelier of Houghton Conquest in the North Centre Section; Joanne & Alan Hacon of Great Yarmouth in the North East Section; D & K Harris of Newport in the North West Section; and S Dickinson & P Newton of Weston-super-Mare in the South West Section.

Bordeaux — 10 July 2026

J P Halstead of Kington Magna won 1st Open and 1st South West Section, receiving the 1st Open Trophy donated by Mark Gilbert, the B Corbin Cup and the Benzing-sponsored ETS Smart Loft System. The section winners were Tiberius Bejenariu of Harrow in the South Centre Section; L J Stock of Romford in the South East Section; David Paine of St Neots in the North Centre Section; and Kelvin Sharman of Syleham in the North East Section. There was no North West Section winner.

Isigny-sur-Mer Young Bird — 5 September 2026

C Allwright & Son of Ashford won 1st Open and 1st South East Section. The other section winners were D Bullen & Son Loft 2 of Croydon in the South Centre Section; C Crick & Son of Stotfold in the North Centre Section; Chapman & Eastoe of Great Yarmouth in the North East Section; Graham Jones of Cannock in the North West Section; and Tomasz Fedyk of Melksham in the South West Section.

Isigny-sur-Mer Old Bird — 5 September 2026

D Heywood & Son of Laindon won 1st Open and 1st South East Section and received the BICC Special. The other section winners were A M & L Light of Horsham in the South Centre Section; Brian Clarke of Hitchin in the North Centre Section; Eddy & Clayton Oxborough Loft 2 of Norfolk in the North East Section; J Rodway of Rushwick in the North West Section; and J P Halstead of Kington Magna in the South West Section.

Ace Awards

The Team Aurel Trophy for the Ace Pigeon, based on the old-bird National Northern coefficient over a minimum of three races, went to John Black of Hitchin. The Ace Lofts Trophy for the Ace Pigeon, based on the old-bird National Southern coefficient over a minimum of three races, went to J & K Smith of Pontypool. The Roger Strowger Trophy for the Ace Young Bird in the Northern Sections was not raced. The Junior Members Cup for the best performance by a member under 16 years old went to Ethan R Nightingale of Dover. The Overall Ace Young Bird South title, based on the same young bird's coefficient over a minimum of two races, was not raced.

Pau — 19 June 2026

C & J Rogers & N Sales of Writhlington won 1st Open and 1st South West Section. They received the F Brooks Trophy, the Channel Queen Trophy for the highest-positioned hen across all International races, and the Brian Long Memorial Cup for the highest position across all International races. G G & C J Cooper won the BICC Rose Bowl Trophy. The section winners were M Gilbert of Windsor in the South Centre Section; Fagg & Nicholas of Hartlip in the South East Section; Simon Shearsby of Corby in the North Centre Section; Kelvin Sharman of Syleham in the North East Section; and M R Williams of Hereford in the North West Section.

Agen — 29 June 2026

C & J Rogers & N Sales of Writhlington won 1st Open and 1st South West Section and received the Mark Gilbert Trophy. The section winners were M Gilbert of Windsor in the South Centre Section; Ionel Flavius Calinic of Pitsea in the South East Section; and A & T Wright of Norwich in the North East Section. There were no winners in the North Centre Section or North West Section.

Barcelona — 3 July 2026

M Gilbert of Windsor won 1st Open and 1st South Centre Section, receiving the G Hunt & Son Cup, the Mr & Mrs Bunney Cup for the first bird in the South Centre Section, the Frans van den Heuval Cup for the two-bird average, the Jim Emerton Mensa Trophy for the two-bird average, and the Benzing-sponsored ETS Smart Loft System. M R Williams won the Jim Emerton Dream Trophy for the longest flyer over 750 miles with the highest velocity and the Jim Emerton Trophy for the longest-flying bird in race time. The section winners were Ethan R Nightingale of Dover in the South East Section; Mircea Liviu Dehelean of Wellingborough in the North Centre Section; D Jones of Sibsey in the North East Section; M R Williams of Hereford in the North West Section; and Clive & Jill Rogers & Neil Sales of Writhlington in the South West Section.

Dax — 12 July 2026

Cristian Dumitru of Harrow won 1st Open and 1st South Centre Section, receiving the BICC Cup and the K Bakes Cup for the first bird into the South Centre Section. D Dumitrascu won the P Rigiani Memorial Cup for the two-bird average. The section winners were H Archibald of Dover in the South East Section; Brian Clarke of Hitchin in the North Centre Section; and C & J Rogers & Neil Sales of Writhlington in the South West Section. There were no winners in the North East Section or North West Section.

Perpignan — 1 August 2026

Catalin Olaru of Romford won 1st Open and 1st South East Section, receiving the K Couch Trophy and the F A Brammer Trophy. Mark Gilbert won the A & T Deacon Trophy for the two-bird average. The section winners were M Gilbert of Windsor in the South Centre Section; Mircea Liviu Dehelean of Wellingborough in the North Centre Section; Kelvin Sharman of Syleham in the North East Section; and C & J Rogers & Neil Sales of Writhlington in the South West Section. There was no North West Section winner.

Benzing-sponsored ETS Smart Loft System winners: John Halstead of Kington Magna received the system after winning 1st Open and 1st South West Section in the Bordeaux race, while Mark Gilbert of Windsor received it after winning 1st Open and 1st South Centre Section in the Barcelona race.

Two-Bird Average Winners

Pau

C & J Rogers / N Sales recorded 891.844, G G & C J Cooper recorded 809.071, and M Gilbert recorded 780.339.

Agen

M Gilbert recorded 700.373, Damian Szpak recorded 585.758, and N Stevens recorded 581.107.

Barcelona

M Gilbert recorded 784.508, G M Preece & Son recorded 740.712, and Adrian Ghetes recorded 707.634.

Dax

D Dumitrascu recorded 319.614.

Perpignan

M Gilbert recorded 857.805, Catalin Olaru recorded 811.555, and C & J Rogers / N Sales recorded 797.530.

Average Trophy Winners

S G Biss Points Cup

For all International races, M Gilbert won with 415 points, followed by G M Preece & Sons with 128 points and C & J Rogers / N Sales with 107 points.

BICC Cup

For the best average in Agen and Dax, M Gilbert recorded 471.821, C & J Rogers recorded 450.621, and D Dumitrascu recorded 380.118.

Europa Trophy

For the best average across all International races, M Gilbert recorded 643.376 and C & J Rogers / N Sales recorded 607.443.

J & R Wills Cup

For the best average in Pau and Perpignan, C & J Rogers / N Sales recorded 967.349, M Gilbert recorded 826.868, and L & K Buddle recorded 771.009.

Bewes Trophy

For the best average in Pau and Barcelona, M Gilbert recorded 794.209, C & J Rogers & N Sales recorded 737.549, and L & K Buddle recorded 716.255.

Wright Cup

For the best average in Pau and Dax, Cristian Dumitru recorded 635.392, P Basham recorded 543.172, and C & J Rogers / N Sales recorded 501.351.

David Hales Memorial Cup

N George & Son of Braintree won for the first bird into Essex from Barcelona.

Jan Deacon Celebration Cup

M Gilbert of Windsor won for the best average in Pau and St Philbert.

John Tyerman Memorial Trophy

Philip Butts of Gravenhurst won for the best average across all National races.

Jim Emerton Belief Trophy

Adrian Ghetes of Harrow won the Ace Pigeon award for the International races, calculated by coefficient over a minimum of two races.

S G Biss Points Trophy List

M Gilbert scored 49 points at Pau, 110 at Agen, 76 at Barcelona, 22 at Dax and 158 at Perpignan, for 415 points. G M Preece & Son scored 120 at Barcelona and 8 at Perpignan, for 128. C & J Rogers & N Sales scored 25 at Pau, 25 at Agen, 9 at Barcelona, 19 at Dax and 29 at Perpignan, for 107. Adrian Ghetes scored 46 at Barcelona, 15 at Dax and 19 at Perpignan, for 80. G G & C J Cooper scored 47 at Pau, 22 at Agen and 8 at Barcelona, for 77. L & K Buddle scored 16 at Pau, 14 at Barcelona and 12 at Perpignan, for 42. N Stevens scored 24 at Agen and 15 at Perpignan, for 39. D Dumitrascu scored 39 at Dax, for 39. P Basham scored 14 at Pau and 24 at Dax, for 38. Cristian Dumitru scored 10 at Pau, 1 at Barcelona and 25 at Dax, for 36. Ethan R Nightingale scored 12 at Agen and 22 at Barcelona, for 34. F Knowles & Son scored 6 at Agen and 24 at Perpignan, for 30. Catalin Olaru scored 28 at Perpignan, for 28. Team Magda-Cernitu scored 13 at Agen and 13 at Barcelona, for 26. Damian Szpak scored 26 at Agen, for 26. M R Williams scored 24 at Pau, for 24. Heath Archibald scored 23 at Dax, for 23. D & J Staddon scored 17 at Pau and 5 at Perpignan, for 22. Fagg & Nicholas scored 21 at Pau, for 21. Simon Shearsby scored 20 at Pau, for 20. Lyden Bros scored 20 at Dax, for 20. Ionel Flavius Calinic scored 19 at Agen, for 19. Tomasz Fedyk scored 18 at Agen, for 18. Brian Clarke scored 17 at Dax, for 17. Kelvin Sharman scored 17 at Perpignan, for 17. Doug Gatland scored 16 at Barcelona, for 16. David E Farr scored 16 at Dax, for 16. J Chipperfield scored 15 at Pau, for 15. Toto Buzi scored 15 at Agen, for 15. Dorin & Maria Melinte scored 14 at Agen, for 14. F Barresi scored 13 at Pau, for 13. K Pratt scored 12 at Pau, for 12. Traian F Ferentz scored 11 at Agen, for 11. Antocea Andrei scored 10 at Perpignan, for 10. M Connolly scored 9 at Pau, for 9. Stuart Wilcox scored 8 at Pau, for 8. A & T Wright scored 8 at Agen, for 8. Mircea Liviu Dehelean scored 7 at Pau, for 7. Talep Ali Hilli scored 6 at Pau, for 6. J Clarke & Dtr scored 5 at Pau, for 5. C Templar scored 4 at Pau, for 4. Gary Cooper scored 3 at Pau, for 3. SR & WH Knox scored 2 at Agen, for 2.

With the final results confirmed, the 2026 season can be remembered for outstanding performances, demanding races and success across every Section. The joint presentation evening with the BBC and CSCFC will provide a fitting opportunity to bring members together and celebrate the Open, Section, Ace and trophy winners whose achievements made the year so memorable. Congratulations to every winner and to all who contributed to another successful BICC season.

Mike Jackson

BICC Press Officer

Email:mike.jackson026@hotmail.com

Tel:07964448291