

British International Championship Club



October Committee Meeting Report

Looking ahead to the 2027 racing season, the BICC committee met on Sunday 18th October 2026 to discuss plans for the year ahead. A detailed and thorough review of the 2026 season focused, as always, on improving racing for members. This report sets out the decisions made as preparations for 2027 take shape.

Race Programme 2027

Old Bird Races

- 1st May – Alencon – £4.75 per bird
- 22nd May – St Philbert – £5.00 per bird
- 5th June – St Maixent– £6.00 per bird (Joint race with the CSCFC & BBC)
- 23rd July – Bordeaux– £8.00 per bird (Joint race with the CSCFC & BBC)

International Races

- 18th June – Pau – £12.00 per bird (Joint race with the CSCFC & BBC)
- 25th June – Agen – £12.00 per bird
- 2nd July – Barcelona – £12.00 per bird
- 9th July – Dax – £12.00 per bird
- 30th July – Perpignan – £12.00 per bird

Young Bird Race

- 11th September – Guernsey. This will be for young birds only – £4.50 per bird. This race will incorporate the Breeder Buyer ring race.

Marking Stations

The marking stations for 2027 are Lambert, Colchester, Gravesend, Paulton, Southampton, Wales, Northampton and Rugeley. Northampton and Rugeley will become self-supporting, like Wales, with their birds being taken to the Lambert marking station.

2027 Subscriptions

Subscriptions will increase from £55 to £60 for 2027.

Welfare of the Birds at Southampton & Marking fee

To support the welfare of the birds at Southampton, paid assistance was agreed for feeding, watering and transferring crates at the end of the day. These tasks are a substantial undertaking, particularly with the ferry deadline to meet. The additional help will allow committee members to focus on ensuring that the convoy complies with all regulations, as they could no longer manage both responsibilities.

A marking fee of £3 per member was agreed to help fund this additional support at Southampton.

AGM Propositions

Proposition No. 1 — Proposed new Club General Rule 19:

A Race Advisory Committee consisting of four members, including the two race advisors, shall be elected at the AGM. Its purpose shall be to consult with the Chief Convoyer when conditions or circumstances require consideration of whether to: (a) cancel a race; (b) change the liberation site; or (c) change the day of liberation. If any of these actions are agreed, members shall be notified of the change or cancellation no later than 24 hours before marking. A full explanation shall be provided.

Note: Extreme weather conditions experienced in recent seasons have led to erratic results and poor returns. Increased regulations imposed on racing from France and by DEFRA may also lead to logistical issues. The Committee recommends adopting this rule to ensure that decisions receive full consideration and that members are informed of the reasons for them.

Proposition No. 2 — Proposed new Racing Rule 16:

No member is allowed to send any bird to a BICC National race wearing any form of tracking device.

Note: Trackers are not allowed for the International races.

Accounts for 2026

The accounts were discussed and agreed, and all members can view them on the website.

So, with the 2027 race programme agreed, marking arrangements in place and paid support planned for bird welfare at Southampton, the BICC is looking ahead positively to the new season. The proposed rule changes will be considered at the AGM, while the agreed subscriptions and marking fee form part of preparations for the year ahead. The BICC is working to ensure the financial stability of the club now and in the future, while continuing to improve racing for its members.

If you want to race against the best in Britain and Europe, then the BICC is the club to join. New members are always welcome, where 'Only the finest' is on offer for National and International racing.

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