B.I.C.C.

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B.B.C.

British International Championship Club
British Barcelona Club
Central Southern Classic Flying Club
Combined race

Pau International Provisional Race Report
Monday 24th June 2024

Pau is one race that almost needs no introduction, it is an iconic race point that fanciers have tried to win for generations. Pau is located 62 miles from the Atlantic Ocean and 31 miles from Spain. This was the first International of the season, and the second joint race with the BBC and CSCFC.

In total, with the 3 clubs, 131 members sent 659 birds. This was well up on 2023, where 88 members sent 381 birds, to compete against the best in Europe.

They were joined by 3,568 from France, 3,368 from Belgium, 4,314 from the Netherlands, 1,181 from Germany and 40 from Luxembourg. A total of 12,631 pigeons were basketed. The birds were liberated at 7.00am on Monday 24th June, after a three-day holdover, to kick off the International season.

This race report covers the Open and Section winners in all three clubs and is a combined report by Clare Norman and Mike Jackson. This report is based on member's verifications and the final result may differ.

1st Open BICC & 1st North East Section, Jonathan Palmer of Ipswich over 615 miles on 849. The hen was flown on my usual Chaos system where there not paired or allowed to lay or rear young before racing. The hen has been quite consistent scoring 2nd Section, 82nd Open BICC St Maxient-Ecole last year at 401 miles and then went to fly Tarbes with the NFC achieving 12th Section H, 152nd Open at 620 miles. This year she's had 2 Channel races with the BICC. St Philberts, where she was 7th Section 427th Open and Nort Sur Endre, also finishing 7th Section again. Her sire was bred by Mark Bulled, a son off his Old 60 stock cock purchased from Fred Cornwell through Elimar. The dam was bred by D Bullen and son and was off Islas Rainy Day Boy, when he was paired to a daughter of Legacy, also acquired through Elimar. I've no plans to continue racing her now and look forward to breeding from her in the future. This is my first proper attempt at International racing, and I never imagined it would result in me winning the National race. I'd like to thank everyone who has got in touch to congratulate me, and I'd like to congratulate all those that timed in on such a testing race.

Jonathan also took the first four positions in the section, in a truly great performance. He placed, 2nd Section, 29th Open on 692.934, 3rd Section, 98th 451.643 and 4th Section, 100th Open on 438.025.



BICC Open winner



Jonathan Palmer

1st Open BBC, 2nd Open BICC & 1st South East Section, L & K Buddle of Dover over 543 miles on 830. Our winner of 1st BBC Pau is a 2022 late bred cock flown on our widowhood-chaos system. This is only his 5th ever race from across the Channel having previously made his first ever Channel crossing from BBC Bordeaux last season at 438 miles where he won 22nd Section G, 70th Open BBC Bordeaux.

This season in preparation for Pau, he has had inland races with the local Wingham club out to Stoney Cross 129 miles, then into the first 3 BICC National races from Alencon 194 miles, St Philbert 265 miles and finally Nort Sur Erdre 284 miles. Just 9 days before basketing for Pau International 543 miles. After a week in the race basket and a 4-day holdover we can honestly say that these pigeons have been very well looked after as all our 9 pigeons clocked on the winning day are still in fantastic condition in their body and physicality.

This season has been our first season using the Cest Pharma products, following on from 3rd Section, 5th National from Nort-Sur-Erdre 2 weeks ago we, can honestly see a positive affect that the Cest Pharma products have on the pigeons.

The sire of our winning cock was bred by Geoff and Catherine Cooper, a cock we call Marseille Farmer, as he's from a son of HP & P Brockamps' Marseille-09, 1st International Marseille when paired to a full sister to Farmer George, 1st International Bordeaux for the Coopers.

The dam of our winner is a daughter of Tom, himself a multiple 7 times winner of prizes from long distance International races and a super breeder. He is the sire of our Apollo, who won 1st National

BICC Bordeaux, 34th International 15,530 birds in 2022. Tom was paired to Elsa, to breed the dam. Elsa also won 1st National BICC Narbonne 557 miles in 2014 for us.



Lee & Kevin Buddle



BBC National winner

1st Open CSCFC, 9th Open BICC & 1st South West Section, G G Cooper & C.J Cooper of Peasedown St. John over 559 miles on 767. We timed a two-year-old chequer cock, now called Farmer Norman after Clare Norman, who works tirelessly for the sport. His sire is a son of Wingdown paired to a daughter of Little Gem, his dam is a daughter of George when he was paired to a daughter of Farmer George and Wollongong. He was basketed with two-day old young birds in the nest. After a long hold over, he arrived in excellent condition, a credit to La Colombe Joyeuse and all those looking after the birds. This is the first season for many years we have raced natural, due to peregrine problems when the birds were exercised twice daily on widowhood. Farmer Norman had three channel races then four weeks off before basketing for Pau. Congratulations to the winner of the BICC, Jonathon Palmer.



CSCFC Open winner



Catherine & Geoff celebrating the win

<u>CSCFC and BBC Section Winners</u>

2nd & 25th Open 1st SE Section Michael Fuller of Portsmouth. As a great supporter of the Classic. I'm pleased to see Michael taking 2nd Open. Michael has been a pigeon fancier for over 30 years. The hen he timed is a 4-year-old. Her father was 65th in the National from Tarbes and 50th Open in the Classic from Tarbes. Also, Pau Classic 50th and Bergerac 91st in the Classic. Her grandmother 5th Open Pau, 77th Open Bergerac.

2nd Section, 3rd Open CSCFC and 6th Open 2nd Section BBC was Brian Millard of Temple Cloud, Bristol. Brian timed a chequer cock, GB21F08083, to take 2nd Section, 3rd Open CSCFC and probable 6th Open BBC from Pau International. Firstly, congratulations to all section winners and the Open winner on timing on a really testing day.

My pigeon, now named One for Pam, is in tribute to my wife who passed away earlier this month. He was earmarked for Pau this year after claiming 16th Section C, 95th Open BBC and 16th Section, 68th Open CSCFC from Bordeaux last year.
This year he had three inland races with the WOESRC then Carentan and Fougères then quietly prepared for Pau. When he landed, he was a picture, not a feather out of place. So, my thanks go to the convoying team for looking after the birds so well after the holdover. The sire was bred by J&T Barnett and Daughter of Telford, Shropshire from their own Marriot line. The dam was bred by myself from my spangle family that I have raced since 1964. Can I end by saying thanks to Clare and her team for running everything so efficiently.

4th Open 2nd Section CSCFC and 7th Open 1st Section A, BBC was Jimmy Wearn & Erik Neilson of Ramsdean. Jimmy & Erik timed a 4-year-old pied cock. Congratulations to all the race winners and everyone who timed on a tough race.



Michael Fuller's hen


Brian Millard


Jimmy Wearn & Erik Neilson

5th & 11th Open CSCFC, Michael Bradley of Fareham. Congratulations to G & C Cooper on winning a very tough race. My pigeon has been a very consistent racer up to National level. She is bred down from a son of Chalice King, of Dean Childs, and a sister to Katie, of Graham Rann's 2nd Open National winner from Pau. This makes her bred down from two very good Pau National winners.

6th Open CSCFC, 8th Open 2nd Section A BBC and 17th Open BICC, Paul Basham of Southampton. Paul timed GB22N76812 over 524 miles at 9.46am.

7th Open CSCFC and 10th Open BBC, Frank Drain of Waterlooville. Frank timed GB19B10738, a 5-year-old chequer cock. The sire was bred by Jim Etherington and the dam was bred by himself out of his Van Bruanes. In 2023 he flew the Pau International and was 15th Open, 5th Section. He was then put back to Bordeaux with the BBC and CSCFC where he was 66th Open, 20th Section. As Frank said, 'Not a bad bird - hey!'



Michael Bradley


Frank Drain

10th Open Paul Ayling of Gosport. The blue hen I timed was sitting 12-day old eggs and she has been very consistent over the Channel this year. The sire is from Jimmy Wearn, a son from Starlight x Melissa X a sister of The Proof. The dam was bred by Mark Gilbert, a granddaughter of Golden Barcelona and Starlight.

1st & 2nd NE Section CSCFC and 11th Open BBC, Owen Abery of Reading. Congratulations to Geoff and Catherine Cooper for timing the winner and everyone who clocked. My first hen was a chequer, who had raced 5 Channel races before, ranging from Guernsey to St Philbert, flying about 1200 miles. Then with a 3-week rest to prepare for this race. Having previously been 3rd Sec, 9th Open CSCFC and 4th Sec, 13th Open BBC Thurso 504 miles in 2022. The parents are from Mark Gilbert. The sire being a grandson of Southfield Melissa and the dam a granddaughter of Kannibal Barcelona and Forrest Jr. My second pigeon, the blue pied was bred from a Jelle Jellema cock bird gifted to me by Mark Gilbert when paired to, The Northern Dream, who took 1st Open CSCFC Thurso in 2021.

1st SW Section CSCFC and 1st Section B, BBC was Tony Cottrell (Cottrell, Richmond & Rogers) of Wimborne. Congratulations to all the Open & Section Winners of the combined BICC, BBC & CSCFC Pau Race after 7 days in the basket. What a hard race with some courageous birds.
The bird we timed on the fourth day at 07.28.23 dropped, as I was basketing for Messac. It was his fourth time across the Channel this year, having flown BBC Fougeres, CSCFC Carentan and BICC St Philbert. 1st to the loft CSCFC Carentan, 3rd Section 685 birds, 3rd Open 3,025 birds. BBC Fougeres 4th Section, 362 birds, 12th Open 2,370 birds. 1st to loft BICC St Philbert 17th, Section 2,371 birds, 49th Open 5,037 birds and now this Pau race. BICC, BBC & CSCFC 521 miles, named Skywalker.
When I heard they were up after 7 days in the basket my mind went back to 1994 when after 7 days in the basket they were released. I timed on the day that year with a bird called Overlord, to be the first to time on the day from Pau International taking 18th Open from 7,224 birds. Oh, I dare to dream! But not this time, we are towards the bottom of the result: down but not out.
Yes, he's taken 1st SW Section CSCFC & 1st Section B BBC and I'm in ore of his grit and determination to get home. His breeding is from Nigel Rigiani, BBC Stud, Mr Gavel, 3 times Barcelona 1st Section, 9th Open, 2nd Section, 7th Open BBC, 19th Open, BICC, 1st Section, 3rd Open BICC, 1st Section, 8th Open BICC for Tony Cowan. This when paired to a full sister to Olympic Ric, 1st Open BICC/BBC Barcelona 58th International.
The dam is Miss Brimstone, 1st Open, 1st Section CSCFC Bergerac, 1st Section, 2nd Open Dax, 2nd International Dax 19,400 birds etc. Dam: Mr Alicante, 4 times Palamos x Lady Jane, 6 times Palamos Jack Randall. His grand dam was GB99B50500, a BB daughter of Overlord. Skywalker's dam is a hen at stock from my good friend Sid Miles off his Little Darling, an outstanding long-distance family. 1st Open Pau National. Thank you to the marking station crew, especially Clare who sorted out my clock and verification. Till the next time - keep them flying.



Paul Ayling's hen



Owen Abery



Tony Cottrell

CSCFC & BICC South West Section Winners

2nd & 5th Section, 38th & 47th Open BICC and 8th & 9th Open CSCFC were Clive & Jill Rogers & Neil Sales of Radstock. The partnership timed four pigeons in race time and two on the second day. Their first bird was GB22N39897, a Treetops Lofts blue cock bird that was bred from a double grandson of Golden Barcelona. The mother was a hen bred from a son of Southfield Hugo when paired to a double granddaughter of Orion. The blue cock had already raced four times across the Channel this year in the CSCFC Carentan race, BICC Alencon, BICC St Philbert and NFC Messac. GB22A33998, their second arrival, was a chequer hen which was bred from a blue cock bird that is a grandson of New Laureaat & Olympic Romee when paired to a hen from Nouwen Passen a granddaughter of Golden Barcelona. The hen received the same preparation races as the cock bird. Both two-year-olds were paired, to other partners, and were sitting on 10-day old eggs on the day of liberation. Upon arrival and in the days since, Clive has been pleased with the pigeons, despite being in the basket for a week they were in surprisingly good condition on arrival. The loft sent 22 pigeons to the Pau race but have only had 4 home at the time of writing but are hoping for more to return over the next few weeks.

3rd Section, 39th Open D & J Staddon of Ditcheat over 547 miles on 667. Dave said, 'Congratulations to Jonathan Palmer on a fantastic win and to all section winners. We timed a 2-year-old cock raced on Chaos Widowhood. He was our third pigeon on the day from St Vincent last year and 11th National as a yearling but was disqualified as we mistakenly did a full Benzing clock evaluation after our first two arrivals. He was also 26th National St Philbert 2,797 birds in 2023, so he is becoming a tidy little pigeon for us. He is pure Staddon blood. His parents were both late-breds, bred from our best long-distance racers that season. The sire is from Fahrenheit & Celcius, 2nd & 3rd National Rieux Minervois, 592 miles, and 23rd and 26th Nat Pau 549 miles. The dam is from Gemstone, 1st Section,7th National Tarbes NFC 560 miles and Miss Vincent, 1st Section, 3rd National St Vincent. So, he is bred for the job. He had 5 consecutive Channel races before his final prep as a trainer with the Three Counties from Ramsgate 8 days before basketing. We hope to send him to Dax International next, so watch this space!'



Clive & Jill Rogers & Neil Sales



D & J Staddon

BBC & BICC South East Section Winners

2nd Section, 3rd Open BICC and 2nd Open 2nd Section G BBC, John Chipperfield of Herne Bay. Firstly, I would like to congratulate all the winners and say how well the birds had been looked after. They were in first class condition. This pigeon was my 4th pigeon from Pau last year and was 6th Section, 12th Open. This year was her 3rd International race. Her sire is my 2012 winner, Joe, and the dam is a daughter of Lady Teresa. Lady Teresa had 2 first sections, 2nd Open Pau and 1st Open Perpignan in her racing career. I am hoping to send this pigeon to Perpignan this year with a few others that made it home from Pau.

3rd Section, 6th Open BICC Michael Connolly of Canning Town over 565 on 780. First of all, I would like to start by congratulating the Pau National winner as well as all section winners on a very tough race. The hen we timed was a two-year-old, sitting ten days overdue on twelve eggs adding two eggs daily up to marking. She is bred by our very good friend Cliffy Chipperfield. I must say a very big thank you to Cliffy for everything he does for us. We would also like to thank Cliff's brother John Chipperfield for taking our pigeons to the International marking stations.

1st Section J, Kenny Pratt of Thundersley. The pigeon I timed was a 6-year-old blue hen flown natural, sitting 12-day eggs from pigeons off the late Ken Scholka, gifted by the Delea Bros of Rainham.



John Chipperfiled's hen



Micky Connolly's hen

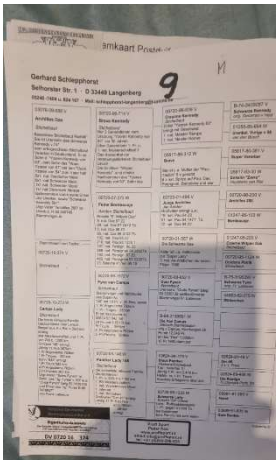


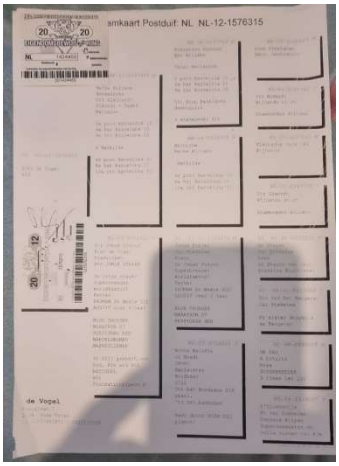
Kenny Pratt's blue hen

BICC South Centre Section Winners

1st Section, 4th Open J F Haynes of Fifield over 563 miles on 805. The ever-consistent fancier from Fifield, John Haynes, timed an excellent pigeon to once again top the south centre section. John timed GB21N60652 at 9.28 am.

2nd Section, 5th Open I Ripan of Stanmore over 572 miles on 786. The bloodlines of Ion's pigeon is apparent in the pedigrees he supplied. Long distance blood throughout the breeding from Gerhard Schlepporst and amkaart Postduif.





3rd Section, 7th Open BICC and 3rd & 9th Open 1st Section D BBC, Mark Gilbert of Windsor. Well after 7 long nights in the basket the Pau International run by La Colombe Joyeuse liberated the pigeons at 7am UK time on Monday morning. With light NW winds predicted on most of the route home and possibly some light southerly winds the home end, we were hopeful of a good chance of a day pigeon Monday night. The heat did get up during the day, but we were still confident, if you had a super pigeon in the team of one making it into the UK and maybe even a top International performance. With plenty of beer and some fish and chips we sat patiently waiting for the pigeons to arrive. Sadly, no birds made it into the UK on the night, so it looked like being a tougher ask for the British birds than first expected. With an early start at 4am we waited patiently again, but early pigeons did not appear, so that emphasised the fact the birds had been held up at the Channel and had waited for the next morning to cross. The morning was longer than we would have liked, and we finally got our first arrival, 242 a widowhood hen, at 10.07 for provisional 1st Section, 3rd Open BBC, 3rd Section, 7th Open BICC Pau. This hen is a pure Jelle Jellema being from a son of 'Zeus' x 'Silke' x and a daughter of 'New Jade 1' x 'Romee'. 242 scored 20th Section, 76th Grand National NFC Tarbes last year, as a yearling. Our next 3 arrivals came at 11.31, 12.50, 14.54 to score provisionally 2nd, 3rd, 4th Section, 9th, 13th , 23rd Open BBC, and 11th , 15th , 23rd Section, 19th , 30th and 51st Open BICC. The third arrival also flew Tarbes Grand National last year as a yearling and scored 7th Section, 26th Open. In terms of the team. We were a little disappointed and thought they were a good team and would make a good job of it, but it wasn't to be. So, onto Agen and Barcelona here we go!



John Haynes



Ion Ripan



Mark Gilbert's fist bird

BICC North Centre Section Winners

1st Section, 10th Open Dave George of Letchworth over 599 miles on 762 and 2nd Section, 90th Open on 506. This bird, a dark chequer cock, 818 2020, was bred by the House of Aarden and has been a very consistent pigeon. Taking 1st ,2nd ,2nd ,8th ,9th Sections, 7th Open Agen International 563 miles, 10th Open International Pau 599 miles, 71st Open, 97th Open, 188th Open in the BICC ranging from 320 miles to 599 miles. His son, 522 a dark chequer, taking 2nd Section, 90th Open Pau is a 2021 home bred. He was also 80th Open St Maxient 386 miles and was clocked from Nort sur Erdre taking 431st Open 321 miles. Dave also had a 3rd bird to be 4th Section, 102nd Open Pau. This bird was also a House of Aarden Padfield Iron lady X a Dave home bred. Dave thanks Steve and Lesley for the original stock and congratulates the winner on timing an excellent pigeon.



Dave George

3rd Section, 94th Open Brian Clarke of Hitchin over 599 on 466. Brian timed GB22B00810 at 8.40 am on day 3 to take this good section position.





Thanks to convoyer

All clubs would like to thank Nick Stevens, the convoyer, who takes the birds over to Belgium. He has been doing a wonderful job and is so conscientious and caring for the birds.

BICC Website Upgrade

The BICC website has been upgraded and moved to a new server for additional speed of response and enhanced security. Members are asked to ensure they refresh the browser on their devices and phones when viewing the site to ensure they are looking at the latest updates. There are details on the landing page of how to refresh the page. In most cases it will be automatic, but it is always best to refresh after the latest upgrade.

The next joint race

The next joint race for the three clubs is the Bordeaux National. After that, the next joint race will be the Fougeres YB and OB. All three clubs are hopeful that they will build on the success of these races and are looking forward to another great birdage.

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