

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

28 / 12/ 2018

THAT'S IT – IT'S OVER FOR ANOTHER YEAR FOLKS. Not just Christmas but also the end of 2018, a year of excitement for some and more of the same for others. 2018 saw four PBGVs attain champion status - Around Zlightly Different with Soletrader (imp Swe), Tangaer Chamlee, Beaujons Ugly Betty of Monkshams JW ShCM and Vilauddens Midsummer Madness (imp Swe).

Exhibitors know that some judges are more than tardy in submitting their critiques, indeed some never do. As Club Secretary I follow up any missing critiques but this is always a long process of allowing the KC time to investigate and take action. Judges have 3 months from the date of show to submit their critique. It also has to be borne in mind that the dog press sometimes takes weeks before it publishes a critique sent to them. Around four months after a show, I contact the KC and they follow it up with a search/chase process. Search initiated for critique (which of course I have already done before contacting the KC), first chase letter to judge (14 days deadline), second chase letter to judge (10 days deadline), third chase letter to judge (10 days deadline). If the critique is produced the matter is closed. If not produced, the matter goes to the KC Committee for a penalty decision. Overseas judges are often the worst culprits. They are warned that, unless no good reason is given or the critique not submitted, the KC will not endorse them judging in this country again. As you know, no Crufts critique appeared for this year. Several of you have asked about this and I can only report that, at the moment, the matter is going to the KC Committee for a decision. Of course, when a critique is received so long after the event, it loses impact and importance, the show is usually far to the back of our memories as we move onto the next one. Some are only interested in the win and not what the judge has to say, others find the critique an important part of the judging process and want to see why the judge placed their dog where he/she did. All I can say is that, when you know there are persistent offenders who time and again fail to produce critiques, consider whether you want to enter under them.

With some results still awaited, in the published national final standings for the year, many congratulations to go Gavin & Sara Robertson for being Top PBGV Breeder, also for heading the league table with Top Dog of the Year Ch Soletrader Magic Mike, owned by Sara Robertson & Wendy Doherty. This beat his number three position last year. In the final standings for Top Puppy, the PBGV winner was Sara, Oliver & Erin Robertson's Soletrader Beatrix Potter.

If you have not yet paid your Limited Odds Draw subscription for 2019, Geraldine Dodd is waiting. Contact her on 01582 865828 / g_dodd@hotmail.co.uk. And, also if not already done so, I need your payment and confirmation of wishing to remain on the Breeders Directory. Time is of the essence as leaflets need to be printed for Crufts. Lynn Wood is receiving offers of help on the breed stands at Discover Dogs and now has only a few times vacant. If you would like to participate, contact her on 01268 555072 or wood_stephen9@sky.com.

PBGV judges known so far for 2019 championship shows are: Boston (no CCs)- Peter Marks, Manchester - Gavin Robertson, Crufts - Linda Skerritt, HA of Scotland (no CCs) - Suzanne Metcalfe-Bilgin, Birmingham National - Rod Price, SKC May - Pam Marston-Pollock, Bath - Fred Ellingford, Southern Counties (no CCs) - not known, Three Counties (no CCs) - Mike MacLaren, Border Union (no CCs) - Jolanda Huisman, Blackpool (no CCs) - Luis Pinto Teixeira, Windsor - Jeff Horswell, East of England - Val Jackson, Hound Association - Patsy Hollings, Leeds - Espen Engh, Paignton (no CCs) - Suzanne Emrys-Jones, Bournemouth - Tom Johnston, WKC - Sara Robertson, SKC August (no CCs) – not known, City of Birmingham = Brian Foster, Richmond - Heidi Allenby, Darlington - Stuart Milner, Belfast (no CCs) – not known, Drifffield - Dianna Spavin, South Wakes - Sue Ergis, Midland Counties (no CCs) – not known, BGV Club - Paula Heikkinen-Lehkonen, LKA - Linda Lewis.

Boston Championship show takes place shortly with Hounds on 5 January and an entry of 20 for Peter Marks, who is also judging 13 Grands beforehand. No CCs in either breed. Judging starts at 9am. Then on to Manchester at Stafford on 17 January where we have been given CCs. Gavin Robertson is the judge. Numbers are not yet available. And, a reminder that postal entries for Crufts close on 7 January, with on-line entries closing 21 January.

. Finally, as we approach the last day of 2018, I wish all of you and your PBGVs a happy and healthy 2019.

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