

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

1 / 2 / 2019

IT NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE ME that practically every year before Westminster, the East Coast of the States is gripped in sub-zero temperatures and there must be so many dog owners/handlers/exhibitors worried about whether they will make it to Madison Square Gardens for America's most prestigious dog show. That said, the PBGV entries are dropping year on year with only 9 this year, just one more than GBGVs who only recently made their first appearance at the show. This surely must be an all time low as there were 14 last year. Other than experiencing the show itself, with such poor entry I can't imagine why anyone would want to travel a long way to sit ringside and watch. Monday 11 February is the day when PBGVs are being shown and I will look forward to viewing on my computer.

As I write this, the weather isn't too rosy in parts of the UK either, so I hope anyone who is snowbound is stocked up with food for humans and dogs.

Coincidentally, following on from my comments about missing critiques in my last week's notes, yesterday someone posted on facebook that, since Boston 2018, 367 championship show critiques had not been published. These, of course, include those missing from PBGVs. With the full list appearing in print, sadly the same judges' names crop up time and again. It is therefore incredulous that the KC fails to act but, no, they pass the same miscreants for other breeds and other shows time and again.

As we slip into the weird and wonderful world of the Judges Competency Framework, today I emailed or wrote to all judges on our C lists. Anyone currently on a C list will need to be registered at JCF Level 1 or above, or be on a breed club B list, to judge that breed from 1 January 2020 onwards. With the jaws of the JCF crocodile snapping from below, any C list judge should clamber up as soon as possible onto the B list as the clock inside the crocodile is ticking away and, before you know it, you will be sunk without trace. On the B list and it will give enough breathing space to carry on judging from the BGV Club's list while the next scramble takes place to achieve Level 2 under the new JCF requirements. If you didn't receive an email from me or don't get a letter within the next couple of days, let me know.

Two dates for your diary – the Club AGM and Open show at Weedon Bec, Northants, on 6 April and a Breed Appreciation Day for both Petits and Grands at Corley Village Hall, Coventry, on 3 November. Open show schedules are available from Colin Makey, 01469 540260 or gairside@btinternet.com. The schedule and entry form are also on the club website www.bgvclub.co.uk/diary-dates. For details of the Breed Appreciation Day, contact Claire Cooper, 07855 255287, clairecooper81@hotmail.co.uk. And, at the risk of repeating myself, if you haven't paid your 2019 subs, why not? Contact our Membership Secretary Martin Bishop on 07779 300761, martin.bishop10@btopenworld.com.

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