

WHAT IS A CHAMPION?

The other day Kevin Palfreyman rang me and asked me the question, when would I class a pigeon a champion.

So I ask you the same question, what is a Champion pigeon?

Fanciers who win regularly may look at pigeons in their loft with a few prizes each, but do they think they are champions. There again, an unsuccessful fancier may have a pigeon that races best for him and although not a big winner, he thinks it is a champion. You read regularly in the BHW articles and adverts relating to Champion This and Champion That, but are they champions?

Kevin Palfreyman lives near Leeds and flies a good pigeon and has won many prizes racing. He has won the Club, Federation, many times and won the Mid Yorkshire Combine. It could be said the best pigeon he has owned is The Rocket. This pigeon not only won for fun, winning many club and federation prizes, but he was a prolific breeder. He now has another pigeon showing great promise. As a yearling this cock won 4th Federation in the Heavy Woollen Championship race. He also won 1st Federation from Newbury. As a 2y he won 4th Federation 4th Amal Leicester, then 1st Federation 1st Amal, Newbury followed by 1st Federation 1st



Champion 55.



Kevin Palfreyman holding Champion 55, watched by two loft managers.

Amal, Bovingdon. As a 3y he was 1st Federation, 1st Amal, Inland Championship race; then sent a week later to Falaise, his first Channel race where he won 1st Federation 2nd Amal, 5th Mid Yorkshire Combine. He was sent back to Le Mans, 400 miles and came 27th Federation, 38th Amal.

So what will next year bring to this cock?

His sire is a full brother to The Rocket, 4 x 1st Fed and the dam was bred by John Woods at Royston off Hartog breeding. She bred 1st, 2nd, 3rd Fed; 1st, 2nd, 3rd Amal; 3rd, 5th, 7th Mid Yorks Combine, all timed inside a minute from Le Mans 400 mile.

The question is, do you call this cock a Champion? Well Kevin has called him Champion 55 and I agree with him. This pigeon is a true champion and only 3y. He could exceed The Rocket but then again he could fall on his own sword next year, time will tell

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