

There's still a market for CAC shows in Belgium

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THE AMBIBORIX Trophy is one of the youngest dog shows in Belgium. It started small and modest; it is still modest but no longer small and if it continues growing like it has for the last two years, it will no longer be modest either.

With an increase of more than 15 per cent to 1,457 dogs, it is almost as big as Leuven and the Grand Prix at Genk and comes pretty close to shows like Mechelen, Liège, Mouscron and Antwerp - and, unlike the others, it is

still a CAC show. There are very few such shows for all breeds but this one proves there is a market for CAC shows as well as for those which offer CACIBs.

It is also the country's first show of the year; maybe that is in its favour too. It has an international reputation too as in the catalogue I found four UK entries, two from Ireland, two from the Czech Republic and one from Portugal, Norway, Hungary, Austria and even one from as far as Russia!

A CAC show usually has more local

judges on the panel than a CACIB event; here, eight were Belgians, three came from Holland, one, Hughie Jones, from the UK, one from Spain and a regular guest at Genk is Piotr Kroll from Poland. He has judged here twice a year for at least the last five years and still draws lots of entries.

It was Norman Deschuymer's task to judge BIS. In third place was Monique van Brempt's BOB and group winning powderpuff Chinese Crested **Chmiel Argoel Next Germanika**. This two-year-old dog is owned by Lisa Croft-Elliott from the UK.

There was only one Pointer entered under Mr Kroll who later put this one to the head of the group, and Mr Deschuymer made him RBIS. American-bred **Seasyde As Good As Gold** is owned by Kristina Pilatus and is almost two years old.

BIS went to the French Whippet bitch **Blue Spring's Electra**, only 15 months old, and was entered in the intermediate class judged by Regina Tromp-Pruyn from Holland. After beating 17 competitors, including champions, she charmed Javier Sanchez with her dreamy eyes and unusual colour and won the group. And Mr



BIS at Genk's Ambiorix Trophy show under Norman Deschuymer was the Whippet **Blue Spring's Electra**. Group judge **Javier Sanchez** is on the left.

Deschuymer suffered the same fate, she bewitched him too and he could not resist making her BIS. Her owner Danielle Lempereur returned home to France with some impressive cups and titles. In view of her youth we will certainly see **Electra** more often in the future and it may well be on the podium too.

Next year's show will take place on February 11 and 12; for details see www.hkv-ambiorixtrofec.be/.

Incidentally, the Haspengouwse Kynologen Vereniging, organisers of this show, came up with the junior handler to represent Belgium at Crufts. **Ine Vanscer** will defend the national colours in Birmingham.



The Pointer **Seasyde As Good As Gold** was RBIS. Group judge was **Piotr Kroll**.



BIS3 was the Chinese Crested living in the UK **Chmiel Argoel Next Germanika**. On the left is group judge **Monique van Brempt**.