

Judge's interview

with Mr. Peter Lauber

K.B.T.C. – C.R.B.T.



Mr. Peter Lauber will be judging during our Belgian Top Terrier Double show, at the OPEN show in the morning, as well as during the CAC show in the afternoon.

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BREEDER RELATED QUESTIONS

You have quite a long history as a successful breeder. Could you tell us when and how you got in contact with those breeds?

I grew up with Airedales but was always interested in many breeds.

My first Lakeland I got because a friend wanted me to get her a nice bitch from England. When the bitch was due to be sent over she changed her mind and didn't want her anymore. So I get her for myself.

Wire fox Terrier were always one of my favorite breeds as they are so attractive. When I was judging with Harry O Donoghue I asked him for a Puppy and that's how I got into wires.

On a visit in 1991 at the WELKS show my future wife saw a Bull Terrier for the first time and it was love at first sight. The year after we bought a Miniature Bull Terrier that was the foundation bitch of our Minis.

Under the prefix Dytona we bred Miniature Bull Terriers. We bred many champions in different countries and won also several titles such as European-, World junior champions, Bundesjugendsieger, Bundessieger, World- and European Champions, BOB Eukanuba National, Westminster and Montgomery, Breed Record Holder in the USA with 15 BIS at all breed shows.

We also bred and owned Champions in Airedales, Lakelands and Wire Fox Terriers.

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→→→ PETER LAUBER

Dear Mr. Peter Lauber, thank you so much for taking the time for this interview for the Royal Belgian Terrier Club (KBTC-CRBT).

Can you please tell us how you got involved with dogs; both as breeder and judge?

→ My family was always involved in Terriers so I spent at an early age my weekends on dog shows. I passed my judge's exams in 1987 and was the youngest judge in Switzerland at that time.

I recently passed my exam for the FCI group 2 and I'm entitled to judge group 2 and 3.

For 16 years I was the president of the Miniature Bull Terrier Club of Switzerland and I was a member of the board for judges and exhibitions of the Swiss Kennel club for several years.



→ Mr. Peter Lauber will be judging following breeds during our double Terrier Shows on May 4th, 2025:

OPEN SHOW

Australian Silky Terrier, Cairn Terrier, Dandie Dinmont Terrier, Deutscher Jagdterrier, English Toy Terrier, Irish Glenn of Imaal Terrier, Irish Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Irish Terrier, Kerry Blue Terrier, Lakeland Terrier, Miniature Bull Terrier, Norfolk Terrier, Scottish Terrier, Am. Hairless Terrier, Biewer Terrier, Rat Terrier and Toy Fox Terrier.

CAC SHOW

Bedlington Terrier, Border Terrier, Bull Terrier, Fox Smooth & Wire Terrier, Jack Russell Terrier, Japanese Terrier, Manchester Terrier, Norwich Terrier, Parson Russell Terrier, Sealyham Terrier and Skye Terrier.

Do you see differences between breeders in Belgium compared to breeders abroad?

I guess there are everywhere different aspects for breeders. Some are just breeding with the heart and some are ambitious to achieve a goal.

What would be your advice for young and upcoming breeders?

Listen and learn from others. Take advice and try to find a good mentor who helps you.

What is your most favorite dog show, as a breeder?

There are several. But I think it's always most important to go to breed specialties.

JUDGE RELATED QUESTIONS

When did you have your very first judging? How do you look back at that initial experience?

My first judging appointment was 1988. It was an interesting path who is not finished yet. But it's not the easiest. You need to be dedicated and take it very seriously.

Did you have a mentor in becoming the successful and respected all-around Judge you are today?

If so, what is the main thing you embraced and implemented in your career?

One of my good friends was Judy Averis from the famous Saredon Kennels. She bred various Terriers on high levels. I learned a lot from her.

What makes you choose for the best of breed? Is it all about breed standards, physical and or behavior? And what makes you choose for a best of group, best in show?

Type is most important for me. If the type is correct it's usually a good dog.

As an experienced and respected Judge, you have seen Terriers all over the world during international dog shows.

In your opinion, how much has our group 3 evolved over the years? How do you feel about it?

The Terrier group has always been a very competitive group for BIS. But in recent years quality has dropped for many breeds. There are some breeds on the rise as well. It all depends on the breeders.

What is your favorite dog show, as a judge?

I love to judge in the US & Australia. It's so well organized and exhibitors or professional handlers see it as a real sport and try to get the best out of their dogs.

Are you mentoring judge apprentices, what is your advice to upcoming judges?

What qualities do you admire the most in a judge?

I do sometimes mentor young judges. You need persistence and do not make any concessions. There are no friends or enemies in the ring. The best dog shall win always.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

We all have witnessed a severe impact of the pandemic to the canine world. On one hand showing and judging halted, on the other hand breeding boomed enormously. Are we still experiencing the impact therefrom; what is your opinion on that?

The pandemic was very bad for our sport. Too many puppies were bred out of not top class parents.

You can still see the consequences in many breeds.

In one of our previous newsletters, we published an article about how the Belgian police recently train dogs to detect the Coronavirus. Where do you think dogs can still help people?

I think there are many ways dogs can help people and make their lives easier.

We have recently seen much stricter regulations surrounding the breeding and exhibition of dogs in Austria and in Germany and, like the "Animal welfare-dog ordinance", in which certain breeds are prohibited of exhibiting. Will we experience same evolution in Belgium?

Unfortunately we will see other countries to follow. I think the only way to succeed and to help the dog world is a union of all the main kennel clubs to for a force together.

According to you, what is the next big challenge in the canine world?

The big challenge is to save the breeding and showing pure breed dogs in the future.

It's only possible to win that battle if we all stick together.