

# **ENGLISH SHORT-FACED TUMBLERS AT THE ONTARIO NATIONAL**

January 29, 30 & 31, 2015 - California

NPA Grand National Pigeon Show - The Los Angeles Pigeon Club to host the January 2015 Grand National Show. Location is Ontario Convention Center, Ontario, California.

By: Scott L. Sharp, Dundee, Scotland

An entry of 172 English Short Faced Tumblers at the Ontario National was truly remarkable, helped with Kenny Davis's entry of over 100 birds. Although Kenny entered a large number of birds, he very sportingly entered them with the original owners' names and forwarded any awards they won to the breeders. I was very impressed with the overall quality and condition of the birds.

The Almonds were won by an old cock which had good ground colour, good beak and setting and excellent type, owned by Mike Gardner. This was Mike's first National/major show for ESFT, so well done.

The Agate classes had some excellent birds amongst them.

I found a Dun old hen which was absolutely outstanding in every respect. She had perfect size, gorgeous beak and setting and in A1 condition. This hen was always going to be the benchmark as the bird to beat. This bird belonged to Hencken/Davis.



*Left and below: Champion English Short-Faced Tumbler, dun agate hen.  
Owner: Hencken/Davis*



There were a number of Yellow Agates which were excellent, all with good beaks and settings We had a discussion the next day about the Agates which had white feathers in their tails and it will be

interesting during the coming months to hear everyone's input about showing these birds.



We tentatively have agreed that if two birds were equal in quality, one with white feathers in the tail, the bird without white tail feathers will be put in front. This is to encourage breeders to breed (and show) Agates without white tail feathers.

The Kites were won by a very typy young cock belonging to Wayne Conta. A few of the Kites were a bit long in the beak and down-faced, but the winning birds were very straight faced.

The Baldhead classes were a very pleasant surprise. Only a couple with bull eyes, the rest having good clear eyes. Unfortunately, most of them needed their beaks trimmed.

**Above and Right:**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Reserve Champion.**  
**English Short-Face Tumbler,**  
**Almond, old cock.**  
**Owner: Mike Gardner.**

**Below: Best Kite.**  
**English Short-Face Tumbler,**  
**Kite, young cock.**  
**Owner: Wayne Conta.**



I picked a young Silver hen as best Baldhead. This hen had lovely colour with good clear bars and very nicely marked. A Bald that would compete with the best I've seen anywhere in the world. Bob Thorpe from Australia, who breeds Bald and Beard ESF, attended the show and said he'd have liked to take it back with him. This hen was bred by Ken Davis.

**Right:**  
**Winner in Baldhead.**  
**English Short-Faced Tumbler, silver**  
**baldhead, young hen.**  
**Owner: Ken Davis.**



**Below Left:**  
**Winner in Young.**  
**English Short-Faced Tumbler,**  
**Deroy, young cock.**  
**Owner: Danny Revolinsky.**

**Below Right:**  
**Winner in red.**  
**English Short-Faced Tumbler,**  
**Red, young cock.**  
**Owner: Danny Revolinsky.**



There were not too many Deroy's entered, but I did like the young cock of Danny Revolinsky's which had a nice beak and setting and will be a very useful bird to breed from.

Once again in the Reds Danny won with a young cock. I really liked this bird, lovely beak setting and lovely style and with good colour.

The Yellows were big classes. In the old hens there were 14, but a number of them were a bit long in the beak and a few were down-faced. The first three were super hens and I went for another Hencken/Davis bird as best. This was a gorgeous hen, lovely head and perfect beak and setting. The Yellow old cocks had 3 entries which were all excellent birds.



The winning bird was a super cock belonging to Danny Revolinsky. This bird had outstanding type and it was a close decision for best Yellow.

**Left:**  
**2<sup>st</sup> Reserve Champion.**  
**English Short-Face Tumbler,**  
**yellow, old cock.**  
**Owner: Hencken/Davis.**

The AOC classes had a few birds that were obviously 2nd or 3rd generations from colour projects. I gave best to an Ash Red belonging to Rupert Casey/Davis. A nice enough bird, but not the refinement of the above mentioned birds.

The Dun classes once again had some good birds. I gave best to another young hen belonging to that man Hencken/Davis!!! This hen had the usual characteristics of the Hencken birds, lovely beak setting with good straight outlook.

**Right:**  
**Best dun.**  
**English Short-Face Tumbler,**  
**dun, young hen.**  
**Owner: Hencken/Davis.**

When it came to the final line-up to pick the major winners I had an extremely fine bunch of birds to pick from. I would have been happy to take any one of them home! The birds that had first taken my eye earlier was the Dun Agate hen belonging to the Henckens and I couldn't see anything that could beat it, so she became the Champion ESF Tumbler.



The 1st Reserve Champion was a close decision between the Yellow hen and the Almond cock. When two such birds are so close I always favour the Almonds as they are harder to perfect and have a shorter show life due to becoming darker with each moult. So 1st Reserve Champion went to the old Almond cock belonging to Mike Gardner, a great result for Mike as this was his first major show.

2nd Reserve Champion went to the old Yellow hen from the Henckens. At this point I must mention the winning old Yellow cock of Danny's. It was a very close call between the two old birds for best Yellow. In the end I thought the hen was a better hen than the cock was a cock! If I'd gone for the cock, it would have been getting this award.

Best Young Bird went to the Deroy cock belonging to Danny Revolinsky, a bird which will undoubtedly turn into an excellent old bird. BOS young was the Dun hen of the Henckens. Best Baldhead went to the young Silver hen of Ken Davis. Anyone breeding Balds would be happy to have this bird in their stud.

Finally, I'd like to thank Kenny Davis, who, incidentally, is the finest ambassador of ESF Tumblers I have ever had the pleasure to meet, for ensuring the judging ran smoothly and efficiently. Also thanks to everyone who entered birds for me to judge. It was truly a very enjoyable assignment and I am very honoured to have been asked to judge at such a momentous show. Thank you all.



**Photo Above:**

**Left to right; Kenny Davis, Scott Sharp (Judge UK), Mike Gardner and Danny Revolinsky.**

## ENGLISH

## SHORT-FACED TUMBLER,

## STANDARD RESUME

**Right:**

**Drawn by:**

**Jean Louis Frindell (F). Entente code SBI:  
GB / 832.**

**Origin:** The Short-Faced Almond Tumbler is one of our oldest breeds, referred to in Moore's book of 1735 and the first Treatise on one breed in 1802 and has changed little since. Originally all colours except Almonds were regarded as secondary birds only.

A Columbarian Society to encourage the breeding of Almonds (Ermins) was established before 1764, the date they published the first Standard.



**Head:** Should rise perpendicularly from the root of the beak to be large, broad, lofty and round; short as possible from front to back; also well muffed; i.e. the feathers under the eye and lower jaw should be full and curved a little upwards.

**Beak:** Very short, fine, straight and pointed. Wattle small and fine in texture.

**Eye:** Silvery or pearl-coloured, large, bold, bright and prominent, placed well back and low down in head. Eye cere very line.

**Neck:** Short, broad at base, tapering from shoulders to junction of beak (gullet) and well arched.

**Flights and Tail:** Short, proportionate and well set. Flights carried below tail.

**Legs:** Short.

**Carriage:** Erect, active and dignified; head thrown well back to a line perpendicular with the feet; rump slightly raised and to walk on tips of toes when showing or playing up.

**Size:** As small as possible.

### **Colours:**

Almond, Kite, Dun, Agate, Whole feather Agate, Mottle.

Self or Whole feather in red, yellow, or black. Colour solid to root of quill and as rich as possible.

**Baldhead:** Body, breast and neck, coloured. Belly, thighs, tail and the ten primary flight feathers, white. The beak should be flesh-coloured for all colours.

**Beards:** The whole bird coloured except a crescent-shaped patch of white below the beak, the horns of which should extend only to the front of the eye. Stockings, flight and tail feathers, **white**. The beak of reds, yellows and silvers should be flesh-coloured. The upper mandibles of blues and blacks should be black, the under-mandibles flesh-coloured.

**Ring Size:** A

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