

King Charles Spaniel Club Championship Show May 8th 2016

What a wonderful experience judging the King Charles Spaniel Club's 28 class Championship show turned out to be for me. Held at Baginton Village Hall I was able to judge outside in a lovely big ring; the weather was fantastic – bright sunny and very warm, I got a bit hot and sticky at times but the charlie's performed very well and hardly any of them were panting. The show had a real garden party atmosphere, just the way a good club show should be. This appointment was certainly the high-light for me this year. Such a gracious breed but still with an obvious sense of humour the way they look at you with those most expressive of eyes and their nose in the air. A terrific entry for my first awarding CC's – I could not believe my eyes when Mrs Essex wrote to say there were 146 Charlie's entered! Greatly improved in both movement and temperament I was really impressed with the breeds progress.

Catering was superb – Brenda Essex is not just a good secretary of this club – her Coronation Chicken was out of this world, a perfect meal on a hot day followed by a gorgeous fruit salad. I thank everyone for a truly super day. My Steward Mr Rowley, kept me going most efficiently. At the end I was presented with a most exotic flower arrangement, the latest Club Year Book and a most useful Boots voucher by chairman Bill Moffat. Best In Show was t6he dog, Ch Tudorhurst Commodore; RBIS & BOS Ch Baldragon She Demands: Best Puppy Cofton Fairy Tale; and best Veteran Ch Tucherish Clemency.

The Breed standard states that the general appearance should be "refined, compact and cobby". And again when describing the body it says "back short and level". I think a lot of today's Charlies are longer in body than the described ideal but they are also sounder and better moving than they used to be – I suppose you can't have everything and quite a lot of the time judging dogs comes down to compromise.

VD (5): 1 Gillhespy's Ch Tucherish Sundance, JW 71/2 yrs b/t in excellent form not a grey hair in sight, quality head, lovely eyes, silky coat, good body, moved and showed with composure: 2

**Austin's Baldragon Big It Up, my notes say 14yrs, catalogue says born October 2006, so I don't know which is correct, tri who still has a slim figure, attractive head, clean coat, quite a stylish mover still. Longer cast than 1st;
3 Maddison's ruby Alambra Rich Ruby.**

MPD (7): 1 Leach's Khandro Something Tells Me, 9months on the day, domed skull, good head and eyes, excellent topline and proportions happy showman, steady mover; 2 Hunter's Kasamanda Henderson at Hooebarton 7 1/2 mths, heavily marked tri, typical head and good coat and body. Moved well behind but needs to strengthen in front: 3 Singleton's Marchog Mac Tartan Celxo.

**PD (6,1): 1 BPD Coupland's Tucherish Guilty Verdict, 10mths tri of excellent type, I liked his head and expression, lovely dark eyes, clean well presented coat, firm body well balanced, easy mover, showed well. I see he is out of my best veteran;
2 Goodwin's Diggle Dandelion. 9 mths blenheim, masculine and self assured, showed with confidence, domed skull plenty of body. Up to size:
3 Tricker and Runnacle's Lorphil Red Jester.**

**JD (10): Full house in fact there were very few absentees in the dog classes. 1 Smith's Justacharmer Magic Is Here, 17mths tri, lovely head, dark expressive eyes, good body and topline, excellent coat and presentation, moved and showed well, handled to advantage;
2 Steward's Kasamanda Just A Dream for Marchog, 14mths tri, not far behind winner by the same sire as 1st, full of himself, typical head and expression, well presented coat. Good type and size, could be a shade firmer in front movement;
3 Gillhespy's Lorphil Red River sired by Veteran Dog.**

ND (10, 1): 1 Moffat and Robins's Maibee An Impression, Yearling tri, of excellent quality, I think we may have met in the toy puppy group at UK Toy were I shortlisted him. Good head, expressive eyes, square muzzle, well proportioned, good coat. I should like to see him carry a little more weight;

2 Boyer's Pomelo Never Ending Storey, 11 mths tri, very enthusiastic about it all, good head and eyes, great personality, but happy with his tail when moving, good coat, held topline well;

3 L Red River.

YD (9) ; 1 Lindley's Headra Flash The Cash at Meglind, 23 months Blenheim, well proportioned, cobby body, very pleasing head , dark eyes, well cushioned under the eyes, steady showman. I liked for size and type, firm topline, went on to win PGD as well;

2 Schemel's Tudorhurst Athos, 13 mths tri, size bigger than 1st, masculine head, large open nostrils, clean well presented coat, good body. Showed well, could be better in front action;

3 Gillhespy and McNally's Lorphil Treasure Island JW 18mths tri, smart youngster, well conditioned, attractive head and expression, happy and cooperative never stopped wagging his tail. Needs more body.

PGD (12, 1): H Flash The Cash at Meglind

2 Jackson's Amantra Regal Duke, 2yrs tri lovely face well cushioned, expressive eyes, good coat and body, showed nicely, well handled. Shade longer than 1st;

3 Melville's Amantra Tiberius.

LD (13, 1): Very good class 1 RCC Pennington's Tudorhurst Aramis, 16mths Blenheim, excellent quality and type, good size, most appealing head and expression, with square muzzle and good finish, well turned out with firm body, moved soundly and showed with focus. His dam was my RCC bitch winner today;

2 Ryan and Miller's Amantra Regius of Feorlig, 2yr Blenheim, I see he is litter brother to 2nd in PGD, keen and alert, super topline, stylish mover, with his clever handler every step of the way, attractive head, expressive eyes, excellent coat and form. Not disgraced to be 2nd in this strong class;

3 Clarke's Stonepit Super Sydney for Poltomic, 3yrs tri, rich tan markings, completed a quality trio. I liked his head and dark eyes, cobby body, went well.

OD (11): Exciting class 1, CC & BOB Schemel's Ch Tudorhurst Commodore, 3yrs heavily marked tri, no mistaking him for anything other than a typical male, gorgeous head, warm large eyes that stole my heart, rich tan, wide muzzle, well cushioned, fit body, good outline and balance, excellent coat and presentation steady showman, responded well to his handler when moving. I shouldn't want him any bigger but he performed 100% today and fully deserved to be BIS – he had to work for it as he was up against a lovely classy bitch;

2 Hunter's Maynorth Shades of Heaven at Hoobarton 3yrs ruby, masculine head, soft kind eyes, good outline. Well constructed, good quarters, silky coat, well presented, calm and cooperative, well handled, moved and showed well. When he came back in to challenge for the RCC he didn't put all in;

3 Moffat & Robins's Ch Maibee Mr Kipling, worthy champion, showed well, at 51/2 this tri wasn't just as eager as 1 & 2.

B/T D (3); 1 Van Den Berg-Hage's Royal DesireOf The Night2 yrs, masculine out look, typical head, positive showman, light on his fee going round;

2 Bailey's Aldoricka Smokey Robinson, 3yrs, quality head, dark expressive eyes, good coat. A little long cast;

3 Tricker and Runnacles Belheddan StickyFingers, 2nd and 3rd sired by my winning Veteran Dog.

Ruby D (4); 1 Fasora's Henry Pepino Fapella Gray, coming up 4 good head, large open nostril, excellent body, beautiful coat, moved and showed ok;

2 Constable's Mitapip Rich Ruby, R in yearling, 20 mths, well proportioned with attractive head, needs to firm up movement generally and to carry a bit more weight;

3 Tricker and Runnacies's Lorphil Red Sky, another sired by the veteran winner.

Tri D (5) 1 Gillhespy's Joshua De Melcourt JW (Imp Fr), nearly 2, gorgeous head, expressive eyes, clean and well turned out, fit body, shade long;

2 B Big It Up;

3 Baileys Aldoricka The Maverick.

Blenheim D (6, 5). 1 Mochrie's Downsbank Montgomery, 3 1/2 yrs, tpy dog, quality head, well cushioned, good outline and proportions, moved ok.

VB (4); 1 Coupland's Ch Tucherish Clemency, lovely tri of 7, easy mover, happy showgirl clearly enjoying herself as she had a real spring in her step moving, very pretty and feminine quality head, dark eyes, nicely presented:

2 Bailey's Maibee Margot at Aldoricka, 9yrs Blenheim, feminine head, charming character, loves the world as that tail of hers never stopped wagging, moves ok. A little portly;

3 Kulhankova's Mystery Z Valldesmose.

MPB (10, 1) 1 BPIS, Baker's Cofton Fairy Tale, 6 1/2 mths tri, just divine! Lovely quality very good Potential, pretty face, lovely expressive eyes, shapely body, so well proportioned and together, behaved impeccably standing and moving. Even at the end after a long and hot day she knew what to do when the photos were taken. She could sleep on my bed anytime!

2 Pennington's Chacombe Sugar And Spice, 7mth, went really well the first time around the ring and then she thought she'd enjoy playing her handler up; another delightful puppy, naughty but

**nice, very good head and eyes, compact body, excellent silhouette, well proportioned with silky coat, bags of character, perfected several pirouettes, very promising;
3 Chapman and Ireland's Ellemich Day Dream.**

PB (4); This was not as good a class as MPB.

**1 Leach & Jackson's Amantra Chorus Girl, nearly 9mths this Blenheim needs to grow on a little, feminine head and outlook. Moved and showed o'k, correct proportions but lacking body today;
2 Boyer's Downbank Topsy on Fizz, VHC in MPB, 8 1/2 months tri, quality head, large expressive eyes, clean coat, good body. But wobbly on the move so needs to strengthen;
3 Coupland's Tucherish Adieu Tristesse.**

**JB (5, 1) 1 Mochrie's Downbank Tiger Lily 12mths tri, beautiful head and expression, good coat, well presented and handled, moved well;
2 Smith's Justacharmer One More Magic, 17mths tri, litter sister to winner of JD, carrying a little bit of surplus weight today but still moved o'k, most appealing head and expression. One of the few who was feeling the heat today, could have shown with a bit more amination;
3 Rushton's Justacharmer Magic Made for Tiffin, tri litter sister to 2nd here.**

NB (7, 4) 1 D Tiger Lily;

**2 Van Den Berg-Hage's Royal Desire Utumn Sunshine, 18mths b/t, happy showgirl, feminine head, dark eyes. Needs to carry more weight;
3 Brigden's Cavella Celebration of Autumnwood.**

YB (6,1) 1 Goodwin's Lanola Mademoiselle JW, 19mths tri, most attractive head, domed skull, wide deep muzzle with good turn up, firm body, moved and showed with style and composure, clean and well presented.

2 Johnson's Headra's Pennywise At Alambra, 22 mths Blenheim, well proportioned bitch feminine face, expressive eyes, good neckline, firm body, moved o'k litter sister to YD & PGD winner;
3 Arundal and Brown's Browel Princes Jasmine.

PGB (7,2) 1 Stewart's Marchog MacFlannelette, 22 mths b/t, smart youngster, no exaggerations, typical head, lovely eyes giving very good expression, well presented coat, easy mover, well shown and handled;

2. Harveys's Rivermoor Lady Martha JW, 2yrs Blenheim, lovely coat and colour, quality head, shapely body. Thought she was my winner but something unsettled her and she went off the boil;
3 Askin's, Kendall & Vallila's Sandstrand Merituuli at Headra.

LB (12,7) Big absentee rate in this class. 1 Coupland's Tucherish Julie Christie, 3yrs tri of excellent shape and proportions, charming head and expression, firm body, moved well;

2 Jackson's Amantra Regalia JW, 2yrs another good looking tri, very pleasing head, expressive eyes, happy cooperative showgirl, excellent body. Makes a great brace with her litter brother who was 2nd in PGD. Not in full coat;

3 Chapman and Ireland's Penemma Dream Come True.

OB (7, 1) 1 CC & RBIS Bowles-Robinson's Ch Baldragon She Demands JW, 4yrs tri, well named as she could never be ignored! Well made, full of quality, lovely type, super outline, classy head, large dark eyes, domed skull, good cushioning and finish, confident and lively showgirl, took some some time to settle down in movement but fluent once she got into her stride, clean and well presented;

2 RCC, Pennington's Hello Dolly De La Montagne Ensolelee of Tudorhurst (Imp Fra), 31/2 yrs tri, glorious head, beautiful eyes, great temperament, totally relaxed, very superior in expression

**and demeanour, wide deep chest, silky coat, good bone, moved well behind, lovely breed type. I was very taken with her, not quite the firmness in front movement of the CC winner;
3 and another cracker Willey and Siddle's Ch Penemma Misty For Me JW, what a pleasure it was to judge such good bitches.**

**B/t B (4,1) 1 Stone's Maynorth Back To Black JW, 3yrsgood honest bitch with pleasing head, expressive eyes, firm body, good bone, moved well, showed well in the hot sun;
2 Stewart's Marchog Mimi Bon Bon, 5yrs, dam of PGB winner, quality head, intelligent expression, sturdy body. Not 100% in hind movement but good silhouette and proportions;
3 Van Den Berg-Hage's Ch Royal Desire Morning Song.**

**Ruby Bitch (2) 1 Fasora's Herieta Queeny Fapella Gray,4yrs, lovely silky glossy coat but carrying too much weight today - however this did not affect her movement adversely, attractive head and expression, showed with style;
2 Sykorova's Fine Jane Twee Z Valledemose , out of coat today, feminine head, good topline, could move with a little more drive.**

**Tri B (4,2) 1 Gurtner's Ch, Lux/Int Ch Fleur De Lys De Melcourt, 5 1/2yrs, a little on the plump side today but moved o'k today , heavily marked, pleasing head, laege nostrils, plenty of coat;
2 Champion's Stonepit Lillian Gist at Lankcombe, 3 yrs no coat or body today, pretty head, well proportioned, moved quite well.**

**Blenheim Bitch (4,3) 1 Gillhespy's Ch Downsbank Designed for Lorphil JW, 4yrs, excellent type, lovely head and eyes, well proportioned, happy showgirl, eager to please, moved well;
2 Bailey's Aldoricka Savannah at Peakdowns, 5yrs, domed skull, pleasing head, good body and topline. Not moving quite as well as winner but she went better in this class than in OB.**

Shealagh Waters Memorial Stakes (4, 1);

1 L Mademoiselle

2 L Treasure Island

3 Ch/Lux/Int Ch Fleur De Lys De M.

Liz Cartledge