

King Charles Spaniels. Crufts 2012.

Being invited to Judge your breed at Crufts is a unique and very special event for any Judge. I enjoyed my day, and would like to thank my two Ring Stewards, who helped make the day run smoothly. and to assemble the total entry of 102 dogs. I had quality exhibits in both Dogs and Bitches for my top awards. Overall there was strength in depth in all Classes from Junior upwards.

Largest entries were in Post Graduate Limit and Open in both sex. Some of the Bitch entry were between coats, and as a result had lost fringing, ear length, etc, and with that ring confidence and show presence they normally carried. This had an impact on some dog's movement, confidence, and placing.

Dog CC and Best Of Breed. Was Ch Maibee Theo. Tricolour.

Reserve Dog CC was Tucherish Sundance. JW. Black and Tan.

Bitch CC. Was Ch Tucherish Wkd Antoinette. Tricolour.

Reserve Bitch CC. Was Tucherish Michaela. Black and Tan.

Best Puppy was Cwmhaf Black Button. Black and Tan.

Veteran Dog. Entry. (2/0).

1st. Miss C Gurtner. Fr/ Lux/Bel/Dutch/Int CH. Timothy De Melcourt.

9 Year old Tricolour with full head and excellent pigmentation still full set of ears. Well filled under the eyes, nice soft expression. Good outline with nice reach of neck and level top line held throughout. Good body and spring of rib, well boned without being overdone. Moved and showed steadily, and true front and rear with good drive from hocks. Carried his age well with confidence.

2nd. Ms HB Salguero. Tewhit Thespian.

Another 9 plus year old in good coat and condition. Well broken Blenheim markings and again good pigmentation for age. Full head soft expression. Good dome and ear placement. On the day not so outgoing as 1, and this spoilt his overall outline and movement consistency as a result, thus losing out to winner. Presentation in both exhibits could not be faulted. Well done.

Special Puppy Dog. Entry. (2/0).

1st. Mr D and Mrs DM Bailey. Aldoricka The Maverick.

12 month old puppy. Well broken and clear cut Tricolour, still awaiting arrival of full coat and fringes. Overall outline gave a picture of a longer back than 2 and bigger in frame. Will look more balanced when he finally bodies up and drops into his frame. Won this class on his movement and showmanship.

2nd. Mrs R Mochrie. Downsbank Travis.

11 month Tricolour currently finer and smaller make than winner. Head not so mature was a handful on the day to show. But when settled eventually demonstrated his best points, standing and moving. Well broken markings and strong tans. Will need more time to settle and gain confidence at future shows to reach his full potential. Special Junior Dog. Entry. (6/1).

1st. Mrs D ans Mrs P Schilizzi and Healy. Baldragon Royal Warwick.

This young Tri boy at 17months is starting to blossom and fulfil his early potential as a young Puppy. Smart overall outline, good head and nice fill under the eyes. Excellent pigmentation with lovely dark eyes. Strong bright tan and good width of muzzle. Well broken markings good bone without being overdone. Long ear feathering, correct shoulder placement, giving clean picture standing and moving. Level top line free movement from good angulation on rear legs. With a little more maturity will be one to watch in future.

2nd. Miss A East. Nastane Guaranteed.

Another tri boy same age as 1, and built on similar lines. Full head, with soft expression, correct ear placement, large dark eyes good reach of neck, with level top line. That he spoilt occasionally by not holding his head up. When behaving he did move and show well. But today was sometimes a handful for his handler. Over all a sound balanced dog with good bone and substance, that on another day could change places with 1.

3rd. Mrs R Mochrie. Cavella Culpar.

15 month Black and Tan, as you might expect not so mature yet as 1 or 2. Good strong tans, compact body with good spring of rib. Lacking body coat and fringes to complete a balanced picture. Correct shoulders and reach of neck, movement a little erratic, but sound coming and going. Needs more time to fully mature.

Yearling Dog. Entry. (7/2).

1st. Mrs M Constable. Mitapip Black Satin.

Not sure where this Black and tan has been hiding, never seen him before. Today gave a picture of a cobby compact outline, lovely head good width of muzzle to match. Nice dark eyes, strong bright tans, together with soft expression. Another well made boy, good bone and correct length of back. Carrying a full coat in good condition. Confident and free moving showman. Will be image of his sire (Reserve Dog CC winner) when fully mature? Could well trouble the best very soon.

2nd. Mr R Salguero. Downsbank Fletcher.

Another well made Black and Tan, slightly bigger in frame and carrying more weight than 1. Correct tan markings excellent pigmentation. Full depth of brisket refined bone in proportion to body size and weight. At 21 months a little unsettled on the move, but when he concentrated moved soundly. Demonstrated a typical King Charles trait of wanting to do things his way, and sometimes a challenge to his handler! Not yet fully mature needs time to settle and show his best features.

3rd. Mrs G E Shepherd. Westonbirt Golden Charmer.

This owner loves her Rubies. A 21 month old boy that's up to size and carrying plenty of coat. Good head broad nostril well filled under the eyes. Strong bone and spring of rib. A little upright at the shoulder sometimes making his movement a little stilted. Good strong pigmentation.

Post Graduate Dog . Entry (15/1).

1st. Mr and Mrs S C Smith. Justacharma Oh So Magic. JW.

A great entry in this Class with strength in depth throughout, making this a real pleasure to Judge quality dogs. This boy put it all in throughout, really showing well and attentively for his handler. Attractive head, excellent ear length and placement. Nice rise of skull strong pigmentation. Compact in make and shape, short back good reach of neck. Free flowing movement, driving strongly from his hocks. Keeping a level top line at all times. Wide blaze bright clear tan , strong contender for Reserve CC. His day will come in very near future!

2nd. Mr R F and Mrs E A Rushton. Nisyros Donnie Darko.

3 year old Black and Tan, with strongest tan markings in the whole entry. Lovely masculine head large round eyes excellent pigmentation. Full muzzle and fill under the eyes giving soft expression. Head completed with a great set of ears well set on and correctly carried. Cobby body good bone and body covering. Nice spring of rib to give overall balance. Moved well throughout the class close up to 1. Two lovely Toy Spaniels.

3rd. M/s H M Lunt. Beechglen Gabriel.

Clear cut Tricolour with well broken markings. Full head, strong tans. Not making the most of himself at times and have seen him show more consistently. However, I forgave this in favour of his outline and general quality throughout. Another could be winner in this strong class on another day. Presentation as always impeccable by his owner.

Limit Dog. Entry (16/2).

1st. M/S H M and G D Lunt. Beechglen Summertime. JW.

A quality Blenheim boy and at 2 plus years old really starting to blossom. Lovely full head, clean cut markings. Very full coat and excellent substance. Soft expression large dark eyes. Soft expression strong dark pigmentation. Good turn up and full width of muzzle, completes a classic head. Full ear leathers level back, moved out well and soundly. Won this large class on his showmanship and consistent quality. Ticking so many of the correct boxes for breed type. Another with a bright future in my view.

2nd. Mrs and Miss C and L Tarabad. Lillyjay Percy Cute. Khatibi.

Another Blenheim boy with deep pigmentation and well broken markings. Taller on the leg than 1 and not carrying such a dense coat. When settled he moved freely coming and going. Refined head, but in proportion to

overall make and shape. Good spring of rib and moderate bone. Still needs time to fully mature but showed steadily with excellent temperament.

3rd. Mrs J C Portingale. Tudourhurst Matador.

If only this dog would concentrate a little more and relax a little, he is capable of beating the very best on a good day. When examined for breed points he has the lot. Really full head, soft expression correct ear placement, large round dark eyes, compact and cobby outline. Short back excellent bone and substance, presentation was top drawer. Lost out today for the sake of showing his best points standing and moving. A challenge for his owner but deserved his placing here because he is a top quality Blenheim Toy Spaniel which we seem to lack currently in great numbers. Just needs his equity card to complete a royal performance!

Open Dog. Entry (8/1).

1st. H and J Waters and Robins. Ch Maibee Theo.

This Class completed a lovely entry of quality boys. Placements between 1st 2nd and 3rd here were highly marginal. The final choice was a real challenge for any Judge. In the end I could not deny Theo his 1st place and Dog CC. The top three being great ambassadors for our Breed. Theo is a lovely clear marked Tri boy carrying a very full masculine head and well broken body markings and clear blaze. Good strong tan longest of ear leathers and fringing, correct set on . darkest of pigmentation lovely wide nostril, great rise of skull over the eyes. Softest of expression one to melt you.

Standing and moving he never put a foot wrong, because he is made so right! Excellent bone great shoulder placement giving correct reach of neck and lay of shoulders. Driving with style when moving from the hocks. Today for me he had the lot! Deserved his CC and Best Of Breed. A dog for us all to admire and aspire to breed one as good?

2nd. Mrs L M Gillhespy. Tucherish Sundance. J W.

Outstanding Black and Tan carrying full coat in great condition. Another that never stopped showing. So attentive at one with his owner. Great head qualities strong clear tans, darkest of eyes. Lovely outline with short back correct shoulder placement excellent spring of rib. Great angulation giving free sound movement. I was genuinely torn between 1st and 2nd for my CC winner. It was Theo's slightly fuller finish in head that made the difference and final telling quality in making my placements. He was so so unlucky to met 1 on top form and condition. To add yet another Reserve CC to his growing collection.. when seeking that important but so elusive 3rd CC. His day will undoubtedly come, he deserves to be a champion.

3rd. Mrs D and Mrs T M Fry and Jackson. Ch Amantra Cheers.

Well known Champion with all breed points you would expect to find in a top winner. Full masculine head, good width of muzzle and soft gentle expression. Excellent bone and substance. Great spring of rib, moved and

showed strongly. Missed out today to two dogs on top form. All three are templates of quality and soundness, congratulations to their breeders.

Good Citizen Dog. Entry (3/0).

1st. Mrs Ml and Mrs K L Austin. Baldragon Big It Up.

Smart well marked Tricolour with best overall outline of the three exhibits. Adequate body, short coupled moving well with confidence. Not in full coat but deserved 1st for best head qualities and good pigmentation.

2nd. Mrs M L and Mrs K L Austin. Oh Dandy Boy Hero.

Heavier made Blenheim, well marked with strong chestnut colouring. Moderate bone, but not the top line of 1 standing or moving. Good temperament when handled.

3rd. Miss L C Randle. Othmese Arnaud To Lisbarn.

Longer cast Tricolour than first two. Taller at the shoulders. Being a little between coats looked a shade unbalanced today. With new clothes and maturity will improve and present a better outline. Moved soundly held his top line well..

Veteran Bitch. Entry (3/0).

1st Mrs J Coupland. Tucherish Michaela.

Lovely 7 year old B Tan carting her years with grace and confidence. Lovely compact outline completed by a dense coat. Feminine head soft and melting expression. Dark pigmentation excellent ears and correct lay of shoulders. This showed her level top line and reach of neck. Moved freely covering the ring so well. This lady proved how well a King Charles can carry their age and years yet still show young pretenders who has the X factor! Thoroughly deserving her 1st and reserve CC . Later realised from the catalogue, she had passed on her top qualities to her son the Reserve Dog CC winner! Proof that true breed type will out.

2nd. Mr and Mrs J J and R Lloyd. CH / AM Ch. Cwmhaf Santuzza.

10 year old Blenheim. Another in full coat and presented so well. Full feminine head complete with darkest round eyes some greying on her face but so what at 10? Good width of muzzle nice overall picture. Two lovely bitches just thought the winner was moving a little more freely and easily today.

3rd. Mrs D and Mrs T M Fry and Jackson. Ch Amantra Winterberry.

This lady today had thrown away her clothes since I last saw her in the ring. Like others by so doing, she lost her surety and confidence she normally exhibits. Still carrying a full feminine head with darkest of eyes, she lacked her usual ear feathering and dense body coat. Moved eventually in tune with her owner but just not at her best today. Such a pity for such a lovely bitch. Despite this still hiding her true age well. No doubt will change places with a new wardrobe of coat.??

Special Puppy Bitch. Entry. (3/1).

1st. Mr and Mrs JJ and RA Lloyd. Cwmhaf Black Bottom.

Attractive 12 month old Black and Tan. Nice overall size good make and shape. Good head for age with nice dome strong tan markings. Large dark eyes sweet feminine expression. Still to finish filling under the eyes but that will come. Neat mouth line good turn up. Compact body with good spring of rib, short back and sufficient bone and substance. Plenty of coat and fringes to complete the picture. Moved out well and with confidence for one so young in a big ring. Pleased to award her Best Puppy In Breed.

2nd. Mr C and Mrs B Turnbull. Aldoricka Savannah At Pekedowns.

11 month old Blenheim, slightly bigger in frame and general outline of 1. Deep chestnut markings very well broken. Broad blaze and excellent pigmentation. Moved freely and with confidence, still needs to mature and drop into frame. When she does will look more balanced. Nice full head for a young puppy. Very promising.

Special Junior Bitch. Entry. (7/0).

1st. M/s C Robinson. Baldragon All About Me.

Very smart Tricolour bitch. Well broken markings and clear bright tans. Good full head completed by correct ear placement and long ear leathers with fringes. Good outline and general reach of neck level back and strong free movement. Presented an attractive and sound exhibit with excellent temperament. Another for the future.

2nd. Miss C Gurtner. Ellinor Von Der Gebhardshoh (ATC Am 00641DEU).

Well made Blenheim bitch with well broken markings. Nice overall balance standing and moving. Held her top line through out. Moved with confidence. Carried a deep brisket and strong spring of rib. Correct angulation. Still to fully coat up but excellent presentation and handling.

3rd. Mr J Goodwin. Amantra Queen Of Clubs at Diggle.

Sweet Black and Tan compact in build with excellent tan markings. Another today between coats, so not so outgoing or free moving as a result. Has all the breed points with correct outline when she chose to show them. With coat and further maturity capable of more than holding her own against all others.

Yearling Bitch. Entry. (9/2).

1st. Mr M and Mr K Kirschbaum and Vorderstrasse. Downsbank Cherry Companera.

Lovely 22 month old Tricolour. Another with well broken markings and strong clear tans. Well developed head with long attractive ears. Excellent pigmentation. Good width of muzzle completing an appealing head piece. Nice reach of neck to carry it off held very well at all times. Free moving covering the ring well with strong driving action. Strong contender for Reserve CC award. Excellent presentation.

2nd. Messers D and I Anderson and Watt. Nisyros Atlanta.

Striking Black and Tan 19 months old. Another with excellent Tan and top quality presentation. Real feminine head good dome correct ear placement. Sweet appealing expression. Showed her best points well holding form

and top line. Nice bone throughout without being over done. Strong free mover. Plenty of coat, very close decision between 1 and 2. Another to watch out for, must have a bright future.

3rd. Mr J Goodwin. Amantra Queen Of Clubs At Diggle.

Repeat from previous class.

Post Graduate Bitch. Entry. (13/2).

1st Mrs R Mochrie. Downsbank Valentina.

Well balanced Tricolour neat outline and carrying a good spring of rib. Excellent body and well broken correct markings. Full feminine head, good ear length, Moved confidently with excellent temperament. Just kept on showing for her owner/ breeder today to beat off strong challenge from 2 and 3.

2nd. Mrs D and Mrs T M Fry and Jackson. Amantra Topaz.

2 year old Tricolour slightly longer in back than 1. Attentive show girl eager to please. Correct body and head markings, strong dark pigmentation. Head still to finish, but has all the makings when mature. Today moved out soundly but needs more coat to fully finish the picture. Another close decision between 1 and 2.

3rd. Mrs J Coupland. Tucherish Sarsparilla.

Fully mature Blenheim 5 years old. Full head good pigmentation large dark eyes. Deep brisket level top line and straight front, with enough angulation from hocks to move soundly. Not the neck of 1 and 2 shoulders a little more upright but on balance had many other excellent points to win 3rd here in a large entry.

Limit Bitch. Entry. (10/1).

1st. Mr S Goodwin. Maibee Clemantine Of Lanola.

Another lovely entry of quality bitches in this class, with strength in depth beyond the card winners line up. This 2 plus Tri girl looked a picture. Really full head excellent pigmentation in eyes and nose. Full width of muzzle, long ears, well set on head completing the picture. Good angulation excellent bone, correct lay of shoulders. Kept her top line well standing and moving. Another I considered for top awards. Was spoilt for choice!

2nd Mrs H and Mrs J Waters and Robins. Maibee Emeldamay.

Yet another classy Tricolour from this well known kennel. Litter sister to Dog CC winner and eventual Best Of Breed. Not yet as mature as her Champion brother, but has all the breed points to follow in his paw prints! Just needs more coat and time to do so. Feminine head and sweet expression, excellent tans, full set of ears.. Straight front well laid hocks. Correct reach of neck and level top line. Lacked final body and coat of winner but won her placing here on sound movement.

3rd. Mr R S and Mrs R K Baker. Cofton I Dreamed A Dream.

Mature 5 year old with strong pigmentation and well broken body markings. Well covered throughout without being over heavy. Deep brisket good spring of rib. Well finished head full muzzle not pinched, nice round eyes. Sound steady show girl putting her best foot forward against strong opposition.

Open Bitch. Entry. (11/3).

1st. Mrs J Coupland. Ch Wkd Antoinette.

Not seen this lady for a while. Today she really blossomed as the class judging continued and became more animated, and sparkled to show her Champion attributes to full advantage. Classic head, darkest of eyes and sweet expression. Compact body with great bone and substance. Held her top line standing and moving. In full coat and so well presented and handled. Today for me she had everything I was looking for in my top winners. Moved so well and never stopped showing. Bitch CC.

2nd. Miss V Harvey. Ch Lankcombe Gabriella at Rivermoor. J W.

Another Tricolour bitch on similar lines in many aspects to the winner. Again correct head Full coat and strong bone. Firm body with good angulation. Well presented and handled, moved soundly but not quite so free as winner. Still a lovely and true Champion.

3rd. Mrs I M and Mrs ME Askins and Kendall.

Quality Tricolour showing well today. Slightly finer in make than 1 and 2 but well balanced and everything in proportion. Feminine head full set of ears good pigment and bright tan. Sufficient coat to give attractive outline sound movement good presentation to show off her strong points. A quality exhibit.

Good Citizen Bitch. Entry. (1/0).

1st C K and M L Robinson and Austin. Baldragon May Bea Baby.

Despite being a sole entry, this Tricolour deserved her 1st placing. Well broken markings giving clean cut outline. Moved well showing all the time. Needs a little more maturity to complete the picture. Just needs time.

Ron Stone Maynorth KCS. Judge.