

BATH CH SHOW

King Charles Spaniels

Firstly, I must thank all the exhibitors for such a great entry (with only three absentees) on this busy Bank Holiday Friday. The weather was glorious & there was such a happy & ebullient atmosphere around the ringside. I was delighted to find such an improvement in the temperament of the breed today. The last time I judged there were so many 'Charlies' that spent their time crawling around the ring. Thankfully, this appeared to be a major improvement today & it was most encouraging to see. Another area of improvement was the limited amount of dogs that required stacking. Having owned & exhibited this breed I have no illusions about the challenges to be overcome but it makes such a difference to see exhibits free standing at the end of the lead. The overall quality, I felt, was exceptionally high. There were many difficult decisions to be made, notwithstanding the fact that many of the exhibits were well known to me. My close association with so many breeders & exhibitors of this breed was, of course, a total disregard today.

MPD (0).

PD (3) 1 Pennington, Kirschbaum, & Vorderstrasse's Bonitos Companeros Deluxe Safran, a beautifully headed puppy having the desired depth & width of skull, super cushioning & lovely eyes. Just a tad overawed which made him look somewhat elongated on the move. When he gains confidence & relaxes it will make such a difference. Very promising. BPD; 2 Sproul & Coburn's Khandro Liverpool Lullaby, nicely constructed with lovely neck & shoulders. Secure hindquarters. Presented in great condition. At this stage of development, just preferred head qualities of 1; 3 French & Traynor's Marchog Mac Chino.

JD (8) 1 Boyer's Pomelo Never Ending Story, I note that he is a son of my gorgeous BOB. Has many of his mother's attributes particularly in conformation & movement. This is outstanding. His character is of a gorgeous disposition & he loved every minute of it. Obviously, has some maturing to do but must have a promising future; 2 Gillhespy & McNally's Lorphil Treasure Island, another really lovely young dog who challenged the winner all the way. Such a beautiful head & expression, fabulous body & moved well; 3 Stewart's Kasamanda Just A Dream for Marchog.

PGD (8) 1 Byers' Lanola Giorgio Armani with Simannie, such an impressive body & head qualities too boot. Shown on a loose lead & free standing. Lovely tri markings, super colours with a clear white coat – yes I appreciate that the standard does not specify this but clarity does make a difference. Moved with purpose & supported careful footfall. Again maturity will be to his advantage (as always with KCS males) & I expect to see him seriously challenging the best in future; 2 Pennington & Ashburn's Chacombe Whats Wanted, pleasing character. Super shaped skull; giving such a melting expression with such gorgeous eyes. Just a tad longer cast than 1. Moved beautifully covering the ground with ease; 3 Cox's Headra's Right On The Money for Petitpaws.

LD (8) 1 Matches' Baldragon Striding Edge to Fochai, square, compact & cobby. Head with a lovely finish supporting low set ears which is often lacking in a blen. Secure level topline, short sturdy loins. Great ribs & depth of chest. Lovely bone & of ideal size & balance. Moved very well & this whole package could not be denied the RCC; 2 Miller & Ryan's Amantra Regius of Feorlig, optimum schooling & presentation of this most glamorous dog was apparent. His movement is spot on. Super bone. Perhaps a tad longer cast than 1 but he possesses all the qualities which will, ultimately, press hard for his title. I really was splitting hairs here but this placing in such a fabulous class was recognition in itself; 3 Jackson's Amantra Regal Duke.

OD (6) 1 Smith's Headra's Truly Magic is Justacharma, well I quite surprised myself here! This tri dog I judged almost 2 years ago & he was second in a very good class. Today he captivated me. He is typical of the type my late aunt called 'old fashioned'. Square, compact of good bone, lovely spring of rib, depth of chest & of balanced bone. Perhaps there is nothing old fashioned about this but a case of fulfilling the Standard? Clearly there is no mistaking he is a King Charles spaniel & distinctive from his distant relative the Cavalier. Today this dog was dripping in coat. He moved with great drive & determination & never stopped wagging his tail. I can honestly state that whilst I was aware he had been awarded one CC, I had no idea that Mrs Tracy Jackson had awarded him one before that. I was therefore completely taken aback at the reaction of the ringside & his elated owner when the big green card was handed over. Obviously, I soon learnt it was his 3rd! Many congratulations on his title. CC; 2 Essex's Ch Chacombe Royal Gift to Brendek, a very worthy

champion that I have admired from the ringside & upon inspection I was not disappointed. Upon entering the ring I thought he would be the class winner. I prefer his clear white coat. Head of text book quality. His movement was accurate & precise but just did enough & no more. In making the final decision following the final 'go around' I felt that 1 gave his all & showed his heart out which just swayed the balance; 3 Boyer's Pomelo Never Ending Story.

MPB (2) 1 Kendall & Askins' Cofton Winter Time Tale at Headra. Such a gorgeous Blenheim baby. I thought her enchanting. Super feminine head with gorgeous eyes. Lovely bone & substance & moved beautifully. An exciting prospect.

PB (4,1a) 1 Stone's Maynorth Look Of Love, super head on this confident youngster. I loved her balanced shape; she was all in proportion. In lovely coat & condition. Moved superbly in all directions. I will watch her show career with interest & just hope that she fulfils this early promise.

BPB & BP; 2 Matches' Khandro Step Inside Love to Fochai, certainly had a mind of her own!! She was absolutely determined to throw her chances away & to a degree she succeeded. She is exceedingly sound & has a pretty head. Obviously needs to settle & once her coat comes through this will enhance the overall picture; 3 Sproul & Coburn's Khandro Ur My World.

JB (2) 1 Mochrie's Downsbank Tiger Lilly, this very pretty bitch will always be worth a second glance. I loved her head & eyes. Super body, secure top line, strong hindquarters. Beautifully balanced throughout. Amongst an extremely strong line up in the challenge she was a serious consideration for the RCC; 2 Dawson & Jones' Pomelo Buttons And Bows, another with a beautiful headpiece & well set ears. Sound as a pound. Slightly longer cast than 1 but with many similar attributes.

PGB (8) 1 Goodwin's Lanola Mademoiselle, lovely shaped head, beautiful eyes, super width of muzzle with abundant cushioning all framed by long well furnished well set ears. Moved with accuracy & precision. When she comes into full coat she will trouble the best; 2 Harvey's Rivermoor Lady Martha, another lovely girl with a super headpiece. Beautiful body & substance. Super blen markings; in lovely coat. This was an extremely close call & I had to move them again for a final

time. Coming back the very precise forehead of 1 just made the difference; 3 Rushton's Justacharma Magic Made for Tiflin.

LB (6) 1 Dawson & Jones' Cwmhaf Te Kanawa, oh my goodness! Upon first view I instantly asked myself where had this one been hiding. I had never seen her before! Square, compact with ample bone & substance. Classical headpiece enhanced by low set heavily feathered ears. Those eyes were simply captivating! Glamorous coat being of an ideal tri colour combination all on a pure white background. Fabulous neck, lay of shoulder & ribcage. Lovely deep chest & spring of rib. Beautifully set tail. Moved so soundly, stood foursquare & attentive to her handler. From the offset I thought her something special & assumed that when I awarded her the big green card it was her first CC only to perceive from the applause & cheers that she had become a champion on the day! Many congratulations. I hope we see more of her. CC & BOB; 2 Jackson's Amantra Regalia, a classic Charlie. Super size & shape. Text book head. Lovely bone & substance. Moved so true in all directions. So close up to winner I therefore had no hesitation in awarding her a well deserved. RCC; 3 Matches' Khandro La Vie En Rose from Fochai.

OB (5,1) 1 Willey & Siddle's Ch Penemma Misty For Me, a truly beautiful blen champion that I have had the pleasure of judging previously when a junior. Beautifully constructed throughout. Super head shape & expression. It is on the move that she comes into her own. So sound & accurate which will always be her 'ace' card. Perhaps not in full coat today. A great representative of the breed; 2 Pennington's Hello Dolly De La Montagne Ensoleillee of Tudorhurst, scores on head & expression having such glorious eyes & cushioning. Excellent bone & substance. Lovely to examine on the table. Presented in great condition. Moved well; 3 Essex's Tudorhurst Beatrice at Brendek.

TONY ALLCOCK