

Firstly, I would like to thank the committee of Paignton for the invitation to judge thereby providing the basis of a challenging, but rewarding, appointment. Also, thank you to the exhibitors who entered and came, with very few absentees on a mid-week date.

Every breed has something distinctive about it. The King Charles Spaniel has long been regarded as a "head" breed, with the breed standard amplifying the basis of that thinking. Unfortunately, I found too many examples of heads that lacked the necessary quality of skull. Also there was a common lack of full width to muzzles. A further concern was over the requirement for bodies to match the requirement to be "cobby". There were many examples of very slim built dogs which definitely were not cobby. That could be a factor in rear movement, particularly, being very close in a number of cases.

My last general concerns is over an aspect I had never expected to comment adversely on: temperament. The standard describes " reserved, gentle and affectionate", as befits a companion dog. However, I experienced 5 dogs grumble at me when on the table, and two snap at me when on the floor. Not big numbers, but over 10% of the entry. Although no of harm was done, and I gave licence to the conditions in the hall and weather, I did not ignore that aspect in regard in my placings.

DOGS

Minor Puppy (2)

- 1. Gillhespy's LORPHIL LIQUID GOLD - This 6mth young ruby tried to convince me he had become an expert rock face climber and was intent on demonstrating his ability on the floor. However, once on his feet he showed a well constructed body. He had a lovely shaped head with good nose, ear and eye line and sweet expression. Good pigment. Lustrous coat. Lacked a little in confidence so movement was reserved. Nice baby, though.**
- 2. Hinson's KERIZMA KONAMARA - Another ruby, of 8 mths, who conversely stood proudly. Head not the shape of 1. Well bodied but dimensions wayward in being rather tall.**

Puppy (3)

- 1. Essex CHACOMBE ROYAL GIFT TO BRENDEK - 11 mth tri. Cobby dog with level top line and good construction. Well broken colour to coat. Nicely shaped head, curtained by good ears, lovely expression enhanced by tan markings over eyes, which were dark and well rounded. Dark pigment. Not really thrilled with his day out so clearly not enthused on the move, but that was sound and clean. BPD.**
- 2. Schilizzi & Healy-Gates CHACOMBE RETAINED ASSET - found to be litter brother of 1 which explained why I thought them so similar on almost all counts. Lost out by having a slightly shorter neck and top line not being quite so definite.**
- 3. Hinson's KERIZMA KONAMARA**

Junior (3)

1. Champion's STONEPIT BUSTER KEETON AT LANKCOMBE - 15 mth tri with well shaped dome. Lovely expression. A trifle short in neck leading on to level top line, good tail set. Well bodied but just a trifle long. Moved well. Won on his head qualities.

2. Southam's BALETTA'S BANK ROBBER - 17 mth b/t. Lovely sized body but needs just a little more substance. Level top line. Good pigment, appealing dark eye. Moved well, better coming than going.

3. Hunter's MAYNORTH SHADES OF HEAVEN AT HOOEBARTON.

PGD (7.3abs)

1. Schemel's TUDORHURST COMMODORE - 1 1/2 yr handsome tri. Stood proudly with head erect on well defined neck. Striking head with clear rise of skull. Rich tan markings. Dark eyes. well cushioned muzzle . Well presented, showing his rich coat to good effect. Strong chest, level topline. Moved regally. My only reservation was that he was a bit longer than I like , but no hesitation in awarding him RCC.

2. Jackson's AMANTRA TREASURY - Lovely, cobby blen of 1 1/2 yrs. Good construction with strong chest, good round bone , everything in proportion. Not quite the showmanship of 1 and pigment was slightly off.

3. Pascoe's CAVELLA COOKIE OF CWMTIRION.

Limit (5.1)

1. Baker & Hoenderken COFTON A TEAM DAYDREAM - Lovely, old fashioned, properly sized tri of 2 yrs. Darkest of eye set in beautifully domed head of correct proportion. Lovely wide muzzle with plush cushioning giving completely soft expression finished of with luxurious, long ears. Darkest pigment. A neck of correct proportion leading into compact body with level top line. Good shoulder placement. Proportionate body to leg relation covered by rich coat. Just the size to be truly thought of as a toy spaniel. Moved well with a happy disposition. An extremely well deserved CC & BOB.

2. Pascoe's CWMTIRION LITTLE BOY PEEP - Lightly marked blen of 4 1/2 yrs. Another with good head and neck. Clean topline. Sound movement. Good temperament. Not the coat of 1 and pigment not so strong.

3. Boyer's GMACRYSTALS HINT OF JET

Open (3)

1. Pennington & Portingale's TUDORHURST PIRATE KING - Solidly constructed 2 1/2 yr b/t. Well sprung ribcage with good topline. Good chest. Well coated. Well boned. Strong rear and moved well. Good tan to muzzle which was wide. Just lacked the rise of skull I was looking for.

2. Southam's MAIBEE OSCAR - 3 yr tri who, conversely, had qualities in opposite proportion to 1. Beautifully domed head, with striking rise of skull.

Lovely dark eyes. Although showing a level topline lacked the body substance of 1 and did not have the same drive. Needs time to develop. This class illustrated the challenge in balancing the differing merits of the dogs entered.

3. Williams' KASAMANDA CHASING A DREAM

BITCHES

Minor Puppy (3)

1. Gillhespy's LORPHIL DESIGNER LABEL - A very attractive, slightly heavily marked little tri of 6 mths. Lovely head with notable rise of skull. Dark eye. Wide muzzle. Lovely topline over nicely shaped body. Good leg length with clear bend of stifle. Moved with reserve but soundly.

2. Constable's LORPHIL LADYS SLIPPER - Well broken 6 mth tri with a little flecking. Well proportioned with good bone. Nice rise of skull but not quite matching her sister (1). Dark eye. Also moved well.

3. Jackson's AMANTRA SUMMER MEMORY

Puppy (1)

1. Dawson, Jones & Lloyd's CWMHAF TE KANAWA - As I looked up to see this class I saw this elegant young lady standing alone and immediately thought she seemed to have the qualities to hold her own in any company. That proved to be prophetic. A beautifully presented tri of 10 mths in lovely conditioned coat of correct texture, straight and silky, with well broken colour. Lovely head with clear rise of skull. Lovely expression, dark eyes. Long ears framing a lovely head with bright, clear tans. Clean neck line, level top line over good ribcage. Well boned. Body of correct proportion throughout. Good temperament. Moved with style. A bit of a show girl in every way. CC & BP.

Junior (5)

1. Stone's MAYNORTH BACK TO BLACK - Well made b/t of 16 mths. Good strong body construction, well boned. Slightly smokey tan markings on muzzle which was pleasingly broad. Sufficient neck to level topline. Moved well. Would benefit from slightly more rise of skull.

2. Williams' TOVARICH LADY FAIR FOR KASAMANDA - Lovely sized tri of 12 mths with well broken coat. Nice rise of skull showing off dark eyes. Well defined tan over those eyes. Cobby construction of old time Charlies. Moved energetically. Just a lacking a finishing touch on her overall presentation.

3. Dawson & Jones CELXO CREME DE LA CREME FOR POMELO

PGB (3.2)

1. Williams' KASAMANDA MISS SUNSHINE - 2 1/2 yr old blen of solid construction. Nicely proportioned and well boned. Head not quite as good a

rise as I was looking for. Wide chest, strong rear quarters. Happy disposition. Moved soundly.

Limit(9.1)

1.Essex TUDORHURST BEATRICE AT BRENDEK - This 2 3/4 yr b/t did well to win this class as I had to nit pick my way to separate out the first five in the best quality class of the day. No doubt there is going to be changes in order in times to come. Solidly built with lovely, strong ribcage, well rounded body of correct size with good bone, finished off with level top line. A lovely square outline to her body. Head could have had more rise but her features were pleasing with clear tanning. Moved robustly. A well won RCC.

2. Schlizzi & Healy-Gates BALDRAGON ENVY ME OF CHACOMBE - An elegant tri of 2 3/4 yrs . Lovely head with wide blaze enhancing her appearance, nicely framed by long ears. Dark eyes, good pigment. Body not the substance of 1. Played up a little on the move but went round soundly.

3.Gillhespy & McInally's BRAEMARRA GOSSIP GIRL

Open.(3)

1.Goodwin's CH. MAIBEE CLEMENTINE OF LANOLA Sh.CM - This tri of almost 5 years is of a size of classic proportion absolutely meeting the standard. Well broken coat. Good head with striking rise of skull. Dark eye and dark pigmentation. Wide enough muzzle. Ears of pleasing length.Good tanning. Well made body although top line wavered at times. Moved confidently. Unfortunately, let herself down in the challenge lineup.

2. Gillhespy's LORPHIL BLACK BEAUTY - B/T of 3 1/2 yrs. Immediate impression of spirit level top line.Adequately built with good rib and bone but not quite matching 1. Cheeky expression enhanced by her sparkling eyes and tan markings whilst head lacked a little in full definition. Moved soundly.

Judge : Ron Stewart