

King Charles Spaniel Club Open Show

25th March 2023, Stafford County Showground.

Firstly, I would like to thank the King Charles Spaniel Club for the opportunity to judge their Club Open show. I would like to thank also, my efficient stewards which ensured that all ran smoothly throughout the day. I was able to find amongst my entries, (despite several absentees) a number of exhibits who in my opinion, fitted the standard of the breed. Some would benefit from a bit more ringcraft and it would have made a difference in their placing, as would have presentation in some exhibits. The quality of the dogs outweighed the bitches, and I was happy to find some very promising puppies. This breed is the aristocrat of the Toy breeds, and we must all work together positively to ensure it continues to endure.

Best in Show:

Mr. Ron & Mrs. Kate Stewart's Monleon Made by magic for Marchog.

Reserve Best in Show:

Miss L. Tarabad & Mr. J. Whitman's Baldragon Centre Stage with Khatibi Jw

Best Opposite Sex:

Miss L. Tarabad & Mr. J. Whitman's Baldragon Centre Stage with Khatibi Jw

Best Puppy in show:

Mrs. P Clarke's Mitapip Special edition at Poltomic

Best Veteran:

Mr. & Mrs. M & S Leach's Khandro Something Tells me.

Veteran Dog: (2-1)

Leach's Khandro something tells me. Eight year old tricolour boy, defying his years. Short back, lovely bone with good neck and shoulder placement. Nice short hocks which he used to power around the ring. Very well presented with a lovely domed head and soft expression. A very happy boy and a credit to his owners.

Minor puppy dog (3-1)

(1) Clarke's Mitapip Special Edition at Poltomic. Six month old ruby boy. Very much a baby but all the ingredients are there to mature into a very smart dog. Lovely rich colour, very good neck and shoulder placement, Lovely domed head and ear placement with correct fill under a big eye to give a soft expression. Short compact body. Lovely size and sympathetically handled to get the best out of him. A sound mover and a very promising exhibit. **(2)** Smith's Justacharma Just Magical. Seven month old Blenheim boy. Very well presented, nice eyes, good front. Like above, very much a baby. Good neck with compact body and moved well, just felt his head markings distracted a little from the overall picture. Well handled to advantage.

Puppy Dog (3-2)

(1) Rhodes' Baldragon What else. Nicely marked ten month old tricolour boy, well made, moved with precision from behind. Front action a little loose and high but may improve with maturity. Spot on for presentation.

Junior Dog (3-0)

(1) Smith's Justacharma so Magic. Very smart quality tri boy with a super head which is full of breed type. Lovely body and super front. Stood four square showing off his cobby body and well muscled hindquarters. A real showman who really strode out, moving with precision both ways. One with a bright future. **(2)** Baker and Kendall's Headra's Jim Beam. Pretty B&T with good rich tan, well presented. Typical wholecolour, will need time to mature both in head and body. Super temperament with spot on movement.

Post Graduate Dog (6-3)

(1) Mochrie's Downsbank Indian Ink. Very well made B&T with a lovely domed head, dark eye and correct nose placement. Super front and back end. Was a little unsure on the move, but as the class went on, he gave a better account of himself to win the class and showed off his many qualities. **(2)** Baker's Cofton Dream Believer. Outgoing tri boy, smaller frame. Nice front and back end. I would just have liked a little more of him. Head is very typical of his breeding with a nice dark eye and rise of skull and spot on for pigment.

Limit Dog (3-3)

(1) Clarke's Poltomic Black Magic. Super head on this B&T, in full coat which was presented to perfection with big eyes set in a lovely head. Well ribbed frame, solid behind in a toy package, moved accurately at all times, holding a level topline. **(2)** French and Traynor's Mitapip Elusive Ruby. Richly coloured ruby with a super front, good neck and shoulder. Good head and eye with rich pigmentation. Good mover and handled to bring out the best.

Open Dog (5-1)

(1) Mochrie's Downsbank Jeffrey. This beautifully headed tri boy could be used as a template for the breed as he has all the hallmarks that typify the breed. Lovely rise of skull with super nose placement, kind dark eye and lovely soft expression. Super front with well ribbed frame and well muscled back end. Sound mover, lovely lay of shoulder with well presented coat. One to be proud of. **(2)** CH Justacharma the magic goes on. Lovely headed masculine boy who had a presence about him. Sound mover, good bone and moves for fun. Very correct with nothing to hide. A credit to his breeder.

Special Open tri/Blenheim Dog (2-1)

Stewart's Monleon Made by magic for Marchog. This Classic headed Blenheim boy caught my eye the moment he entered the ring with his great presence and outgoing personality. Cleanly marked rich Blenheim which was presented to perfection. Moved out with drive, covering the ground with ease, holding a level topline at all times. Everything falls into place with him, from his neck to lay of shoulder. Still has some maturing to do but should certainly make a worthy champion.

Minor Puppy Bitch (2-1)

Stewart's Marchog Muffins for tea. Very pretty B&T girl, full of breed type. A little apprehensive on the move but only a baby. She soon settled to show off her many virtues. Very well presented puppy that in time will trouble the best.

Junior Bitch (1-0)

Bailey's Aldoricka Sweet Victoria. Nice size tri girl but very shy, needs more experience in the ring. Good head and eye with nice front and back end. Improved in confidence in later class.

Novice Bitch (2-0)

Bailey's Aldoricka Sweet Victoria. See Junior bitch for critique. **(2)** Smith's Rivermoor Lady Matilda. Lightly Marked Blenheim girl, not at ease on the day. Well presented coat, pretty head but needs more fill under the eye.

Graduate Bitch (4-3)

Smith's Rivermoor Lady Matilda. See Novice Bitch for critique

Post Graduate Bitch (2-1)

Hinson's Kerizma Krocus. Richly marked, full coated ruby which was well presented . Lovely feminine head but lacked sparkle on the day.

Limit Bitch (2-0)

(1) Baker's Cofton fly me to the moon. I really liked this ultra feminine tri girl with super head and eye. Full of breed type and so typical of this family. Nice mover both ways and at one with her owner. She has yet to reach her full potential but should mature nicely. Classy girl!

(2) Hinson's Kerizma Krocus. See Post Graduate for Critique

Open bitch (5-1)

(1) Tarabad & Whitman's Baldragon Centre Stage with Khatibi. Aptly named, well marked tricolour bitch that catches the eye with her overall femininity and breed type. Superb presentation. A real toy spaniel, full of quality and style. Short compact body, deep chest. Lovely precise mover with nothing to hide. Will go from strength to strength as she matures.

(2) Stewart's Marchog Minta Buckle. Typical of the lines from this kennel, this B&T is very correct in make and shape with good angulation and topline on the move. Big dark eyes frame a soft expressive well domed head. Presentation spot on. I noted that she is the dam of the minor puppy bitch winner so is passing on her qualities to her progeny.

Judge Aidan O'Leary.