THE COCKER SPANIEL CLUB Championship Show 17th July 2016

BITCHES

I am beginning to write this a week after my judging appointment and, on reflection – and having recovered my legs and feet – I can say how much I enjoyed the day and what an honour and privilege it has been to judge our breed at this level. The whole day and evening event were a pleasure – in good company. Many thanks to all who entered their lovely dogs.

It was interesting to see a strong representation from the continent, mainly solids, competing well with our home-grown – all were handled to advantage, although sadly some were spoilt by excessive scissor/clipper work; we all like to see a well presented cocker, groomed to advantage, but a natural look would be the preferred end result; less can be more at both ends of the scale.

I felt the entry presented strength in parti-colours, but generally over all good cocker type, which is encouraging.

One or two concerns, particularly with the weight carried by several minor puppies – we like to see a well covered cocker but there is a difference between body and just plain fat! It cannot be good for them. If they have the rib they will grow into it. I noticed a touch of "spaniel mouth" and dirty teeth in a couple of exhibits, which is simply a matter of husbandry. Feet trimming needs attention as does the amount of coat carried around the stifle and, in some, length; excess coat causes all sorts of irritations and can affect the final assessment – the Standard calls for less.

At the end of the day, I was very pleased with my final line-up and awarded the CC to a compact, cockery, black without exaggeration and the RCC to a quality blue of excellent type. At the end of the day I could not but concur with the Dog Judge to award BIS to the DCC winner who is an outstanding example of our breed at the peek of his career; my BCC was the Reserve BIS. Well done all.

BLACK. BLACK & TAN

Class 27: Puppy [3] – three youngsters of good cocker type from the Continent: equal quality stacked

1st Mahe's Lady Million du Domaine de Kerarzic Vilin - Black, 7 mnths, pleasing head, well balanced, good reach of neck; correct shoulder placement and angulation; well ribbed, rounded quarters; straight topline held with sound movement; presented a square picture stacked, in good coat and condition for age; this bitch should mature on well; 2nd Simonelli's Meden Agan Love me Do – Black 9 months; little to separate first and second placings; similar comments apply - this bitch lost out in head and body, which I am sure will come with maturity; her movement needs to tighten.

Class 28: Novice [4]

1st Mace's Cachel Moviestar for Fonesse – 14 mnth Black, exactly what I would look for at this age: balanced all round with pleasing head, kind eye, good reach of neck, well angulated, plenty of heart room, with great bone and spring of rib, rounded quarters; a picture stacked, she stands four square; streets ahead in this class, in spite of the impossible task of assessing her movement.

2nd Pollock's Thurness Shadow Dreams - Black with sweet head and correct proportions; well presented, holding her topline on the move.

3rd Reed's Delindere Dressed for Fun

Class 29: Graduate [11(2)]

1st De Paule's Izia De L'Orme a Lieue – Black – Lovely type; liked her head, good reach of neck, excellent shoulder placement; good angulation, well off for bone; short, well ribbed; good quarters; sound movement, although a bit eratic – rather too much scissor work for my liking – overall, one to like.

2nd Young's Canyonn Classic Symphony - Black – a good type from this kennel; a sound, square cocker; with all desired qualities; would prefer more work in head; well put down; could make more effort on the move:

3rd Palmer's Glenntree Shahana Robraine

3rd De Paule's Lulu Castagnette De L'Orme a Lieue

Class 30: Open [7(2)]

1st Darby's Lujesa Magic Touch at Classicway JW – compact, cobby, black; head has good definition, sweet expression; presents a balanced picture with good reach of neck, correct shoulder placement and angulation, well boned; good spring of rib, short coupled, well muscled quarters; merry, driving action, covering the ground; I have admired this bitch since a pup – just my type - would have liked more width and tighter presentation; shortlisted to the final:

2nd Gilmour's Chavez Royal Grace; another good black of the type expected from this kennel; quality with style and substance; good reach of neck, correct angles; developed quarters; sound, driving, action; very cockery.

3rd Blanquier's Idesia Des Hauts de Clemalive

RED, GOLDEN, LIVER, LIVER AND TAN

Class 31: Puppy [2]

1st Cottebrune's Lune de Miel of Merrily – preferred the finish over 2: sweet head and expression, with good angles and plenty of bone; well ribbed with strong quarters; nicely presented with easycare coat; could do with less feathering on front legs as it distracts from otherwise sound movement.

2nd Vere's Glenntree Carousel with Adrona - pleasing head; moderation all through; good reach of neck, well ribbed and nicely rounded quarters; firm topline; a good sort, sound moving and cockery; needs to mature on.

Class 32: Novice [5(2)]

1st Kengyelics Hebdene Hunnibee lovely type of golden; sweetest expression with plenty of work in head; good reach of neck, well placed shoulders and angulation; deep, well ribbed body, short coupled and strong quarters; excellent legs and feet; tight topline; moved well; nicely presented.

2nd Desmarchelier's Lady Janet du Bois D'Achelles; liked this bitch for type and general balance; felt she was underweight and therefore lacked condition; sound movement 3rd Glennerster's Glentree Mademoiselle

Class 33: Graduate [1]

1st Blanquier's - Merry Cocktails Idea; certainly my idea - with lots to like; balanced all through; well defined head, good angles; deep body with plenty of heart room; well boned; good tight feet; sound, merry movement; pity about the excessive clipper/scissor work.

Class 34: Open [3] - a frustrating class with a difficult decision between first two, both of whom have excellent qualities, just preferred the more compact appearance of the winner: 1st Young's Canyonn Classic Harmony - balanced, without exaggeration; would prefer more work in head; correct angulation, good rib and well made quarters; short coupled; sound, straight movement; sadly left her coat at home today – pity!

2nd Bentley's Sh Ch Canigou Sun Tanned – lots to like about this bitch; good head, kind eye; correct shoulder placement and angles, deed chest and well sprung rib; strong quarters; plenty of bone, nice tight feet; true moving, merry cocker – I imagine should prove another successful brood for this kennel.

3rd Marris Bray's Helenwood Gift Wrapped

BLUE ROAN, ORANGE ROAN, LIVER/CHOCOLATE ROAN; BLACK & WHITE; ORANGE & WHITE, LIVER & WHITE; CHOCOLATE & WHITE (all with or without tan)

Class 35: Puppy [12(4)] – interesting class; some very promising youngsters; 1st Wildman & Edwards' Manlinson Audrey Hepburn – 11 month blue roan of excellent type and quality; with style and enough substance to match her age; lovely feminine head with kind dark eye; good reach of neck, correct angles, well bodied and short coupled; good quarters; sound movement, holding topline with correct tail carriage; smooth coat texture presentation A1 – Best Puppy Bitch; BPIS on referees' decision;

2nd Masters & Birkenshaw's Gilcar Crystal Blue with Manchela – Blue roan of similar type to winner, felt she needs to body up and mature on to complete the picture; has more work in the head to winner, which I preferred, with dark eye and kind expression; balanced all through; correctly laid back shoulders and good angulation; short coupled; lovely straight legs and neat feet; moving with drive, covering the ground well with a "look at me" attitude;

Class 36: Novice [8(2)]

1st Roberts & Smith – Danton Holy Quest: another quality blue of good cocker type with all the attributes, showing the influence of her sire: scored in head, well bodied without being overdone; nicely put down, sound movement

2nd Smith's Ryallcourt Temptation at Gracemia – blue roan, close up to winner, with similar attributes, but felt she dropped away at the croup, which made the decision; 3rd Jarman's Acquelin Eleckra

Class 37: Graduate [12]

1st Babester's Charbonnel Flip 'N' Heck at Kalispell JW - dark blue, very short and compact – correct all round without exaggeration – a leg at each corner; sound moving – just a lovely cobby little cocker – short listed;

2nd Kew's Manchela Startime at Wylyeview JW – blue of equal quality to winner, a little more upstanding; but ticks all the boxes – sound, merry movement; well put down. 3rd Nugent's Nulea Blue Saphire

Class 38: Open [4(1)]

1st Cowles' Charbonnel Show "N"Tell at Shenjela – nicely presented blue roan in good coat and condition; deep chested, short coupled, well off for bone; good quarters; sound movement.

2nd Provost's Belg ShCh Troubles in Paradise Mac-Illtellmema – blue roan with good head and correct angles; short coupled, moved well; presentation left something to be desired; 3rd Mahe's I Follows Rivers Due Domaine De Kerazic Vilin

Class 39: Open Particolour (other than Blue Roan) [7(3)]

1st Scotland's Think of Me – Orange roan – reflects her Scotlish breeding; balanced head, plenty of work, with dark eye and good pigmentation; good reach of neck, fine shoulder placement and well defined correct angulation; well ribbed, short coupled; excellent legs and feet; well developed quarters; firm topline held nicely with sound movement; well presented; much to like.

2nd Williams' Manacas She's Got the Look for Wilmerella – Orange roan of good cocker type; difficult to assess movement as not handled by her owner.

3rd Hill's Olibond Sunshine Girl at Princehill

Class 40. Special Working [2(1)]

1st Vergne-Toubeau's Clicaper's Gimme Gimme – a good type of orange roan who looked and felt as though she was fit for a days' work; short coupled, well angulated and sound moving.

Class 41: Veteran [11] a good class of oldies and not so oldies!

1st Driver's Sprinstein Stars Delight at Beckaby - this blue, at 11 years, is really doing the breed proud; presented in good condition, she is of good type, without exaggeration, stands square on good legs and feet; well bodied, not carrying extra weight; moving soundly, holding her topline and just being a merry cocker; BVB;

2nd Lockwood's Lujesa Caselina at Chimewood – 9 year old black, of quality and style, belying her veteran status; lovely head and eye, good reach of neck into correct shoulder placement; good angles, well bodied; good legs and feet; short coupled and well let down; moved well. 3rd Blackley & Salero's Sh Ch Glenntree Ruby Slippers JW ShCm

Class 42: Minor Puppy [23(6)] promising parti-colour puppies in this class – good for the breed; inevitably some good ones went cardless and no doubt they will change places as the year passes;

1st Craig's Alisma Alegra – 7 mnth blue; sweetest head and expression, correct angulation, balanced, without exaggeration; a short, cobby, cocker; deep ribbed, well bodied with developed quarters; stands four square on well boned legs and nice tight feet; moves with enthusiasm, holding her topline with good tail action; just delightful, probably one of the best from this kennel; would hope to see her future in the green cards! BMPB.

2nd Mitchell's Glowhill Silvery Moon – Blue roan, very typical of this kennel; always produces a good sort; unfortunate to meet the winner in this strong class. Has all the qualities to look

for at this age. Good reach of neck into well laid shoulder placement; well sprung rib, short coupled, nice straight limbs; tidy merry action.

3rd Reed's Jardinisle Euphoria

Class 43: Puppy [7]

1st Duncan's Bartonholm Bellissima – 11 mnth dark blue; her style and class impressed; coming into her own at this age; well balanced head with dark eye, good reach of neck; well placed shoulders and correct angulation; well bodied without excess weight; good bone and substance, without exaggeration; sound movement; excellent coat texture, presented to advantage; one of the best I've seen produced by her sire;

 $2^{\rm nd}$ Masters and Birkenshaw's Gilcar Crystal Blue with Manchela

3rd Seaman's Oakrosa Rosy Rue

Class 44 - Junior [11(1)]

1st Grice's Kyna Chas Dingle – blue roan winning this class with relative ease on her overall good type, maturity and presentation; upstanding with plenty of substance; correct angles, well bodied, nice firm top line with correct tail placement; in hard condition, sound movement. 2nd Fairbairn's Camelfair Shooting Star – different type to winner; attractive blue roan and tan; needs to be handled to be appreciated: excellent head, nice dark eye; good reach of neck, correct shoulder placement and angles; well ribbed, short coupled; moves well and nicely presented.

3rd Young's Canyonn Classical Music

Class 45 - Yearling [13(1)]

1st Kengyelics Hebdene Hip Hop – this black impressed; presented in excellent coat and condition; would like a little more work in head, but that should come with maturity; kind, dark eye; good reach of neck, well laid back shoulders, correct angulation; plenty of depth and width; well sprung rib; short coupled; nice straight legs and neat feet; well let down; true movement, holding topline; shortlisted in the final reckoning.

2nd Pollock's Thurness Shadow Dreams -

3rd Glennerster & Nicholas-Steele's Kalrizienne's Zaffiro

Class 46 - Maiden [10]

1st Roberts and Smith's Rayol The Final Chapter – compact, deep and well bodied black, good bone, strong limbs, correct angulation; pleasing head, nicely presented; moved well to win this class

2nd Mace's Cachel Moviestar for Fonesse

3rd Beswick's Cachel Ice Maiden

Class 47 - Tyro [10(4)]

1st Whitehead's Ryallcourt Pearl Button – black and white, pristine presentation; pleasing head, dark eye; good reach of neck; well bodied with deep rib; firm top line; moves soundly; 2nd Fairbairn and Madigan's Misperros Silver Lining at Carmelfair – close up to winner with similar qualities; liked her type and style; two good bitches.

3rd Wyeth's Molkara Miranda From Fendrove

Class 48 – Special Beginners [7(1)]

1st Driver's Courtmaster Songbird at Beckaby – classic blue type, well ribbed with good legs and feet; correct angulations; well developed quarters; sound movement; carrying a little extra weight over shoulders, which spoilt her outline.

2nd Goodwin's Sarabar Sassyfras – black, too much hair around stifle distracted; generally ticks the boxes; sound;

3rd Simpson's Evaremoc Dark Diamond

Class 49 - Post Graduate [14(5)]

1st Roberts & Smith's Rayol Lady Penny – this black caught my eye and really impressed on handling; balanced all through with big ribs, good bone and muscled quarters; well presented in good coat and condition; moves well with owner; was disappointed with her performance in the challenge due to different handler, pity!

2nd Share-Jones Sharemead Golden Locks – smart golden with sweet head and expression, nothing to hide, everything in the right place; moves well holding topline.

3rd De Paule's Izia de L'Orme a Lieue

Class 50 - Minor Limit [8]

1st Lowery's Bartonholm Nobody's Girl JW ShCm – classy blue I have judged as a youngster; without coarseness in body or coat; good proportions all through; pleasing head and expression, correct reach of neck and shoulder placement, good angles; well bodied, deep with plenty of heartroom; rounded quarters; plenty of bone, neat feet; effortless, sound movement, holding topline and good tail action; pleased to see how she has progressed; pleased to award her the RCC.

^{2nd} Mitchell's Glowhill Miss Saigon – compact blue of different type to winner; her offspring, in the minor puppy class, proves her worth and good type for this kennel; a good solid bitch to handle; felt she was rather out of coat and needs more time to recover from her litter; sound, cockery movement – always liked her as a youngster.

3rd Reed's Reemif Ice Ice Baby ShCm

Class 51 - Limit [12(2)]

1st West's Sheigra Shining Star JW ShCm – this black grew on me; she is not your face but with handling she really comes together; sweetest of heads, well defined with dark eye and kind expression; there is no exaggeration, with moderate length of neck, well placed shoulder and good angulation; plenty of width to forechest; excellent legs and feet; well ribbed, short coupled with firm top line and correct tail set; rounded, muscled quarters; well let down; merry, sound moving cocker; presented in good coat and condition – delighted to award her the CC; RBIS in agreement with my co-judge.

2nd Cottebrune's Cachel French Kiss – black and tan with rich, clear, markings; rather different type to winner – excellent head; good reach of neck, well laid back shoulders with correct angulations; short coupled with good bone and substance; sound moving and very well put down; lots to like.

3rd Craig's Doubtless Pillow Talk (Imp Serb)

Class 52 - Open [10 (3)]

1st Whitings' Sh Ch Annilann Miss Sing JW – smart blue roan of good type; pleased to have the opportunity of handling this top winning bitch; has all the qualities expected in a Ch. Short and well bodied with correct angulation, stands four square on strong legs and neat feet; firm topline, correct tail set; sound movement; short listed – felt her overall appearance a little tired in the final run-off.

2nd Reid's Shanaz Oaty – quality blue, slighter in type and not so motivated; well presented, she looks the part stacked; sweetest head, well angulated, short coupled; nice straight legs and neat feet – would have like a little bit more of her.

3rd Ladislav Skarek's Ser Ch Heidy Skar-Line C R

Sally Ellison Judge