



THE SCOTTISH CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL CLUB

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Show Critique Summer Open Show 15th February 2025

Judge - Louise Turnbull (Lacervali)

I want to sincerely thank the committee for inviting me to judge your second show of the day. It was encouraging to hear positive feedback about the new format. Thank you for the warm hospitality extended to my husband and me, and to the exhibitors for their dedication to staying late into the day and your sportsmanship for accepting my placements with grace.

Thank you for the many comments about my gentle, patient, and understanding judging style when handling your dogs. I always treat each dog with the same kindness I hope for my own. I find our gentle breed thrives when approached in a nurturing manner, particularly puppies at the beginning of their journeys. Gentle handling helps to boost confidence, ensuring they enjoy the experience.

There was an excellent level of quality in the younger dogs and bitches today, which is encouraging for the future, and to judge baby puppy classes for the first time was an absolute joy, as they were charming little personalities. However, having been away from the show ring for some time, I noticed changes we must work on, such as low tail sets and gay tails spoiling the overall outline when on the move. It's essential to keep in mind that the breed standard requires tails to be carried straight and not much above the level of the back.

Additionally, I noticed overreaching rears and roached backs stemming from imbalances in front and rear angulation. We will maintain the breed's integrity by addressing the observed upright fronts and short upper arms. I am optimistic that with collaboration, we can continue enhancing our beloved breed's quality. Thank you again for the opportunity to judge at this show, and I look forward to seeing the positive changes as we move together!

Baby Puppy Dog (1,0)

1. Kerr's, Caramoone Canadian Club at Kinvaar. An adorable 4-month-old baby boy with a delightful head and pretty eyes. Very confident and outgoing, demonstrating a free-flowing gait. He moved around the ring with the confidence of a puppy with more experience in the show environment, totally unfazed and focused on his handler. I will watch this one develop with interest. Also, Best Baby Puppy.

Baby Puppy Bitch (2,0)

1. Maxwell's, Eldondream Survivor. At 5 months old, this B&T pup was a little more mature than my second-placed and slightly more outgoing, but given their ages, I didn't focus on this too much. The head of this baby puppy was divine, with dark, expressive eyes and well-set ears. Developing nicely with good neck reach, this puppy has a bright future, I'm sure.
2. Spiers' Carmoone Spring Breeze. Another very pretty baby with a nice build and balanced movement. She is quieter than my winner, but with experience, I'm sure she will progress and develop; I was literally splitting hairs with these placings.

Veteran Dog (7,0)

1. Hamilton's Kilbarchans Moonwalker, 9 year old blen with dark expressive eyes on a mature, well cushioned head. Good reach of neck into a correctly angulated fore and a best-in-class rear. A little longer in loin than the others, but his movement was excellently balanced. His coat was in excellent condition for his age, and his temperament was sound.
2. Spiers' CCH Embee's Tasmanian Night, 7-Year-old B&T, closely run with 1 with a good head and construction; he liked to fly his tail going around, which spoiled his outline a little.

Minor Puppy Dog (0,0)

Puppy Dog (2,0)

1. Linton's Thekops Si Sinor, lovely B&T dark eyes on a correct head, will benefit from more cushioning as he matures but is in keeping with his age. Lovely correct movement with the topline held on the move. He has a well-furnished coat in good condition; it didn't surprise me when I saw his sire is a dog that I admire greatly also – I hope for a bright future ahead for this little one. **(BPD)**
2. Linton's, Thekops You Little Charmer, Blen kennel mate of the winner, needs more time to mature. He is hard to assess as he was very giddy on the day and gave his handler a hard time, but at 9 months old, he is still developing.

Junior Dog (3,0)

1. McMurray's Chadwick Perfect Tonight at Merryoth (IMP USA), at just 12 months, was the youngest in this class and stood out. He was well proportioned with the most melting eyes I have seen. A beautiful flowing gait around the ring, keeping a level topline throughout. He had one of the better front assemblies of the day and one I will keep an eye out for as he matures. He pushed hard in the dog challenge despite giving his owner a hard time (think overtired toddler), but he may have taken (BPD) on a different day.
2. Rathbone's Brymarden Flawless Blush is another nice example of the breed with a pretty head and expressive eyes, good construction all around, and moving with drive. It was hard to split 1 and 2, but the construction of my winner was preferable in this class.

Maiden Dog (1,0)

1. McKeracher's Brymarden Cool Breeze, playful blen dog, nice mature head, plenty of cushioning under his eyes. Slightly wider in the rear than I would have liked when moving away and proud of his tail.

Novice Dog (3,1)

1. See Junior Winner
2. See Puppy Winner

Graduate Dog (3,0)

1. Linton's, Thekop's Black'N Gold, another nice B&T from this kennel. Short coupled in the loin with correct angulation front and rear gave a flowing gait on the move and level topline with his tail coming straight off his back. Well-furnished coat in good condition.
2. Hamilton & Hogg's, Kringleholme Continental, lovely blen boy, melting expression, nice cushioning and well set on ears. Shorter neck into a shorter upper arm than the winner. Sweet temperament and coat in good condition but did fly his tail.

Post Graduate Dog (3,0)

1. Gow's Legolas Aldaha Gold at Lyncraeg, Blen dog with correct head and good pigment. Eyes dark and round. Moderate neck into a well-laid shoulder, giving rise to good reach and a level topline when viewed in profile, and a well-angulated rear gave drive to his movement, holding his tail level with his back. **(BD, RBIS, BOS)**
2. Kynastons, Granasil Ovaltine, ruby boy moved freely with drive and elegance and retains lovely dark pigment, too. I was splitting hairs between 1 and 2.

Sp. Post Graduate Dog B&T/Ruby (5,1)

1. See 2nd Place in PG Dog
2. See 1st Place in Graduate

Limit Dog (3,1)

1. Gows, Lyncraeg Little Pip, nicely put together blen dog with many correct features typical for the breed. Moved well around the ring with good reach and drive. Good dark pigmentation of the eyes and nose complimented with a silky, free free-flowing coat in top condition.

2. Slack's Dalvreck in Dreams for Eversbabes is a dog with a quieter personality than the winner, which could be put down to tiredness. He lost his topline on the move a little and carried his tail high when going around.

Open Dog (6,1)

1. Spiers' Narayden Ben Hur for Caramoone, beautiful black and tan with an exquisite head and dark pigmentation. Well set on ears and good crest of neck leading to well-angulated fore with a short coupled body into a well-angulated rear giving rise to a lovely flowing movement around the ring. **(RBD)**
2. Finlay-Kirkwoods' Owencurra Tremdous at Marisk (IKC), another beautiful dog with a wonderful expression, slightly longer cast than my winner and was a little shy on the table but moved well around the ring once settled.

Sp. Vintage Dog or Bitch (1,1)

Veteran Bitch (2,0)

1. Gow's Grajenco Macchiato at Lyncraeg, a very pretty bitch with lovely bright eyes and good dentition for her age (9.5 years). A very happy lady on the move showed no signs of age in her movement. She had my heart from the start, had the sweetest temperament and was very attentive to her handler, still enjoying her day in the limelight. **(BVIS)**
2. Gow's Lyncraeg Marnie, another lovely dog from this kennel, 2.5 years younger than the winner, would have preferred more cushioning under the eyes to finish the picture.

Minor Puppy Bitch (3,0)

1. Gibb-Stuart Emberlace Button and Bows at Tanglewood: This little puppy had me chuckling all afternoon. Despite the long day for such a young puppy, this girl was a total firecracker until the end. Her sassiest attitude caused her handler some frustration, but when she settled, she moved well, keeping her topline. With a typical headpiece for a puppy of this age, she used her expression to her full advantage, and her temperament complimented it.
2. Hamiltons Invincible Angel Magic Oat at Hamhoggs (IMP) (POL) (BB4), very similar in type to my winner and it was hard to split the two. Almost blanket marked blen and was quieter/more tired than my winner but could change places on a different day.

Puppy Bitch (5,1)

1. Sim & Kirschbaum's Bonitos Companeros Zamboa Queen, my star of the day and imagine my surprise when I was told after the show that this was her first outing with her owner. This 10-month-old B&T bitch has the most pleasing head and dark soulful eyes, correct mouth and well-set ears. Lovely crest of neck leading to well laid shoulders that enabled superb reach on the move. A short coupled body

- that is still maturing but supported with correct rear angulation. She floated around the ring like a pro who had been here many times before. She is attentive to her handler yet very alert and animated, one to watch! **(BB, BPB, BIS, BPIS)**
2. Kerr's Kinvaar Pinky Promise. I was really having to nitpick in this class to separate these puppies, and I wished I had a first for them all, but this one really gave the winner a run for her money. She moved so well for one so young and was correctly built, but she was just slightly less animated than the winner, and it was literally that that pushed her into second place. On a different day, she could easily take top honours.

Junior Bitch (2,2)

Maiden Bitch (2,0)

1. Maxwell's Eildon Dream Elsa, 2-year-old B&T sired by the winner of Open Dog with a lot of the same attributes, particularly the lovely head and dark pigmentation, giving off a melting expression. Level topline throughout but carried her tail a little high.
2. Henson's Caramoone Grace Kelly, 2 year old blen who was not quite as mature looking in appearance as the winner and tended to drop her topline on the move.

Novice Bitch (1,0)

1. McCue's Xety Get Outta My Way. Although she stood alone in her class, she moved well and was very attentive to her owner. She was a little unsure on the table but was good when on the floor.

Graduate Bitch (2,0)

1. Bibbys's Stronepoint Treacle Toffee at Linanste is another B&T with a nice head almost flat between the ears and well-set, dark, round eyes. Short coupled body with a nice gait, would have preferred a slightly longer upper arm—lovely temperament, a little lively on the move, possibly why she carried her tail high.
2. See winner of Novice Bitch

Post Graduate Bitch (4,0)

1. Gibb-Stuart's Verheyen Jolene for Tangledwood. My notes read, "The best mover in this class with the sweetest expression." When I read the schedule after the show, I thought, "Ah, that explains that expression." She had the trademark eyes of her breeder's kennel, with typical good structure giving rise to a flowing gait on the move. She was a pretty girl with a lovely temperament, too.
2. Hamilton's Gwyrthmon Sheslikethewind, similar to my winner, but I preferred the movement of the bitch in 1st place. She also had a lower set tail but carried it high on the move.

Sp. Post Graduate Bitch B&T/Ruby (3,1)

1. Gibb-Stuart's Clivia De Los Ursidos Kodiak with Tanglewood, a lovely ruby with a soft expression and dark round eyes with good cushioning to finish the look. Nice long stride from the front and plenty of drive from the rear, finished with a gleaming coat in good condition.

2. White's Sweetest of all at Carleny, another with dark eyes and good pigmentation; this ruby was not as short-coupled as my winner and needed a little more coat to complete the picture.

Limit Bitch (2,0)

1. Tremain's Bonitos Companeros First Class (IMP DEU), a well put together blen, short coupled with good spring of rib. She held her topline throughout, parallel coming and going, and was well balanced on the move with good head carriage on a moderate neck. **(RBB)**
2. Spiers' Bonniemadra Cantarito at Carmoone, a ruby bitch that I found hard to assess as she wasn't keen on the matting in the ring. Lovely temperament when on the table but showed a little white of eye in both eyes that I felt detracted from her expression.

Open Bitch (1,1)