

I considered it a great privilege to be invited to judge at the Third National Cocker Show and thank the Cocker Club of South Australia for the invitation, and also for the way in which I was made so welcome. I appreciated the lovely entry from so many exhibits (263) with exhibitors travelling such long distances. I really enjoyed the day's judging. I found on the whole that the top winners were of really good type, which would be universally acceptable, and I was interested to be told at the end that a number of my top winners were by English imports - which must mean that I like the type they are producing. Unfortunately I did find quite a few of a different type, with wrong head planes, rather upright shoulders (i.e. not sufficient angulation of the shoulder blade and the upper forearm). These cockers also seemed to have rather elongated stifles with hocks set much farther back than the end of the tail, which in my opinion is not correct. I hope that this type will be viewed by breeders as being perhaps very handsome, but not correct type.

The arrangements for the show were first-class, and the ring was large enough for any dog to be able to stride out well. The matting for moving dogs on was a very good surface, and of good width, so there was no excuse for dogs not moving well. With the rather long break from the ring for lunch and the judging of the baby puppies, it was getting dark by the time I came towards the end of the bitch classes, but the lighting available was very good. I did not feel it fair to the bitches (or their owners) to rush the later classes, but tried to give them as much attention as I had to earlier classes.

On the whole presentation was good, and temperament presented no problems, except for a few which could have had more animation.

I would like to thank the exhibitors for the sporting way they accepted my placings and for the good sportsmanship shown with applause for the winners at the end of the show.

This was a show I will long remember and enjoy looking back on.

SOLID DOGS.

MINOR PUPPY

1. JAKBETS ZULU DRUM 9 months black, well bodied for age, good bone and substance, coat of good texture, nice width of thigh. Moved reasonably well but a little erratic behind.

PUPPY

1. ROYONI RIGHT HO SIR Very cockery red dog of 9½ months, balanced in head, bone and substance good, nice ribs and depth of body for age, good quarters, moved happily.
2. LINBROOK ABLAZE Stylish moving red dog with good depth of body, but needs time to rib up. Not quite as short as first.

JUNIOR

1. BENGRIFFIN DARTH VADER 17 month old black, cockery in type, nice head, well bodied and ribbed, rather over-trimmed on front legs and feet, moved happily.
2. BRADBERN JEREMY Red dog, rather longer cast than the one above and not as well bodied. Kind eye and expression, lovely coat texture, needs time. Did not move out as well as I would have liked.

INTERMEDIATE DOG.

1. BELLESAM DARK INTRUDER Very nice type black dog, 16 months, pleasing in head and eye, good bone and substance, well ribbed and strong in loin, good quarters. Coat of lovely texture. Moved well but a little more use of tail would improve him.
2. CH. GREYTHORN SAY NO MORE Black with a pleasing head, good ribs and substance, not as mature as the one above.
3. CHARADAI GOLD NUGGETT, C.D. Black and tan with kind eye and expression, balanced in head, well bodied and ribbed. Rather proud of his tail which spoiled the outline.

AUSTRALIAN BRED

1. BELLESAM JACK DANIELS Black dog, well up to size but won his place on trueness of front. Balanced in head, with good eye and expression, well ribbed and wide in quarters.
2. MENANDER MAN ON PARADE I liked this one for head and eye, ribs, body and quarters, as well as size, but his front movement let him down.
3. MERRIHALL ROYAL BLACK Dog of lovely character, good coat texture, nice ribs and good width of quarters. Is inclined to carry his tail too high.

OPEN DOG

1. CH. LOCHDENE GAS BAG (IMP. U.K.) Well balanced black of lovely type and size. He has a good head and eye, nice ribs and depth, is short and strong in loin, and has good width of quarters viewed from the side and the rear, and is well muscled up. He owns a coat of lovely texture which was beautifully presented. Moved freely and happily. After seeing the catalogue and seeing his breeding, I was not surprised - he is a typical "Lochdene". I liked him a lot.
2. CH. BELLESAM BLACK DOUGLAS Another very nice black with a well balanced head and lovely eye and expression. Well ribbed and has good bone and substance and nice hindquarters. Moved soundly but did not have the animation of the winner.
3. CH. ~~TOMOR~~ TAMARD ACE HIGH This dog had good ribs and body, but was not as good in head as the two above and was somewhat over-angulated.

VETERAN DOG.

1. ROMARK SIR RUFUS TAWINI 8 year old red in really hard condition, kind eye and expression, moved freely and happily. Enjoyed his day out.

ANY OTHER COLOUR DOGS.

MINOR PUPPY This class consisted almost entirely of very young immature pups.

1. KEBARLEA KID THE BILLY Good type blue with good head and eye, nice bone, well ribbed for age, strong in loin and nice width of quarters. Lovely character and moved truly and stylishly.
2. JOLLYBONSUE SPICE O'LIFE Nice type blue, good head and eye, well bodied for age, has good substance. Moved well.
3. MARSDEN RIDE ON TIME I liked this baby a lot for type, size and conformation. He has a sweet head and eye, good ribs, but not nearly as forward in development as the two above.

PUPPY

1. ROSBEVANN REAL MASTAPECE Blue of lovely type, pleasing in head and expression, good bone and feet, nice ribs and depth, strong in loin and has good width of quarters. Moved happily.
2. DAYKEYNE SWEET REVENGE Lovely coated blue, balanced in head, good ribs nice bone, moved soundly and with drive. Did not have the width of thigh of the winner.
3. JOLLYBONSUE SECRET ADMIRA Dark blue of nice type with kind expression, good body for age, not as good in front as above.

JUNIOR

1. DONNAS MISTER MUSIC Lovely type blue in very nice coat and condition, well presented. Balanced in head, with good eye and expression, nice front and layback of shoulder, good ribs and short loin, nice width of quarters. Moved soundly and with drive.
2. BELCROFT STEP IN LINE Another of good type and in lovely coat and condition, well ribbed and deep, preferred the hind quarters of the first.
3. KENBEY TRUMP CARD Not as forward as 1st and second, but of good type though a little longer cast than above.

INTERMEDIATE DOG.

1. CH. WINGAIT FLYING HIGH Very nice blue dog, cockery in type and in lovely coat and bloom, well presented. Nicely balanced in head, good eye and expression, very nice layback of shoulder, well ribbed, compact and deep in body, good bend of stifle. Moved very well and with drive, and was full of personality. I liked this one a great deal.
2. GLENBRIAR WELLINGTON BOOTS Nice blue, balanced in head, good depth of body and nice bend of stifle. Moved well.
3. MATMIC MAGIC SPARK Blue dog not as mature as the above, but of good type and lovely temperament.
4. KILDONAN KUBLA KHAN Nice type blue, good bone and substance, needs time to mature.

AUSTRALIAN BRED

1. CH. ROYONI TRADE MARK Blue of very nice type, balanced in head with nice eye and expression, good bone, nicely ribbed and strong in loin, and with good width of quarters. Moved well, kept a good topline and moved with drive.
2. DUSKADINE MISTER KASPAR Similar in type to one above, good bone and feet, well ribbed and deep, good bend of stifle. Moved well and happily.
3. CH. MERRYJAY MANDRAKE Very pleasing for type and temperament, this black and white was well balanced all through, moved soundly and happily. I felt he could carry a bit more weight over the loin.
4. WERRILAH ONE BETTER 12 month old orange roan, obviously giving a lot away in age to the ones above him, but of good type.

OPEN DOG.

This was a very good class with 20 dogs present.

1. CH. GUNLOCH BLUE STRATOS Very nicely balanced dog all through, in hard well muscled condition. He head is balanced, he has very good layback and angulation of shoulder with good length of upper forearm. His body is deep and well ribbed and he has a good width of loin and width and strength of quarters. Sound happy mover, covering a lot of ground with each stride and moving with drive. He is maybe a size larger than I would regard as ideal, but I could not get past him for type, overall balance, soundness, movement and muscular condition. CHALLENGE WINNER and Best in Show.
2. CH. MARSDEN TIME TRAVELLER This was another lovely type blue dog, again a bit bigger than I regard as ideal, but he has so much else to like about him that I had to forgive that. He has a beautiful coat texture, was very well presented and carried his 8 years very lightly. He has good bone and substance, is well ribbed and deep and has good quarters. Very closeup to the one above, but just not quite as positive in front in the final move. I liked him very much. RESERVE CHALLENGE
3. CH. GLENAYDEN LIVE SPARK Sweet headed blue with coat of good texture, nice outline, moved well and with style.
4. CH. TEENALEE MR T. Nice head, lovely eye and expression, good bone and body. Moved well.

VETERAN

1. CH. STONEMILL DOLLAR EXPRESS Nicely balanced tricolour of lovely type, in good coat and condition. Pleasing in head, ribs and body, good quarters, moved well. Best Veteran dog.
2. CH. ELSWOOD WITCHDOCTOR Nice blue in lovely coat, balanced in head, good ribs and bend of stifle. Free easy mover.
3. KEBARLEA KING TOBIN Coming up to 11 years old, this orange roan obviously enjoyed his day out. He retains a good head and true front. Looked well for his age.

SOLID BITCHES

PUPPY

1. ASEMERE LADYHAWK Black with good body for age, very nice coat texture, good bone and bend of stifle. Needs time to feather up. Moved happily.
2. MISTDUKE SARA JANE Red with good bone and substance, nice body and lovely coat texture, well presented. Needs more ring experience.

JUNIOR BITCH

1. BRITBAY BANKSIA 15 month black with lovely flat body coat but needing time to feather up underneath. Balanced in head, nice eye, good bone and ribs, short and deep in body, good bend of stifle. Happy mover.

INTERMEDIATE Three nice bitches.

1. MARHILL MIDNITE MAGIC Sweet headed black with lovely eye and expression. Good front and feet, nice ribs and good width of quarters. Moved truly.
2. TARCREST BLACK IMAGE Another sweet headed bitch with good ribs and body, in good coat and feather. Moved quite well but a bit more animation would help.
3. MENANDER WITCHERY Nice type, and good in head, mature in body, good bone.

AUSTRALIAN BRED

1. MISTDUKE PRECIOUS PEARL Very nice black, balanced all through, lovely head with good chiselling, nice eye, good ribs and strength of loin, nice width of hindquarters, good bone and feet. In lovely coat and bloom, and in hard well muscled condition. Moved soundly and steadily.
2. DAYKEYNE TWICE AS NICE Black and tan well presented in lovely coat and feathering. Pleasing in head and eye, good depth of body and nice bend of stifle. Not as strong in hindquarters as first.
3. ROMARK STARLITE SKY Black bitch not in full coat but has body coat of good good texture. Moved well.

VETERAN BITCH

1. CH. BRITBAY ~~XXX~~ BLACK HOPE Stood alone, but I liked this very nice type bitch very much. In lovely coat and condition, nicely presented. She owns a pretty head, is very feminine and has a good body and nice bone and substance without losing quality. Moved very freely and with style.
BEST VETERAN IN SHOW

ANY OTHER COLOUR BITCHES

MINOR PUPPY

1. KEBARLEA KNICKERBONKERS Pretty black and white, very stylish and sound on the move. Sweet head, eye and expression, good bone and ribs, nice bend of stifle, in lovely coat. Just needs time to feather up.
2. GLENBRIAR SUMMER RAIN Good type blue with lovely body coat, but needing feathering to complete the picture. Balanced in head, nice in eye, good ribs, loin and bend of stifle. Moved well.
3. ISTABRI LADYBIRD Nice head, good bone and substance, well bodied for age. Moved freely.

PUPPY

1. PINEHURST ETERNAL FLAME Well balanced all through, but on the big side. Nice head and eye, good layback of shoulder, well developed body and nice wide hindquarters. Moved happily and confidently.
2. TEENALEE BLUE LACE Pretty headed blue roan of nice size and substance. In lovely coat, very well presented. Not as forward as the one above.
3. DAYKEYNE SWEETHEART DEAL Nice type blue but just a baby compared with the two above. In lovely coat but needs time for maturity and feather.