

National Critique

16th National Cocker Spaniel Championship Show hosted by

The Cocker Spaniel Club Of Victoria Inc.

Judge: Ms Patricia Whitehead (UK)

It seemed such a long time ago when I was invited to judge the Australian National Cocker Spaniel Club, months of excitement, what an opportunity, a terrific honour indeed. My thanks first of all to the Officers and Committee for their invitation, the highlight of my judging career to date. A task to be carried out with the integrity it commands. Thanks also to the exhibitors, most of whom had travelled vast distances, for allowing me privilege of handling their dogs, an entry of 197, and for the sporting way in which my decisions were accepted.

To my stewards, Lyn Walton and Marilyn Warren who kept the procedures flowing throughout the show, huge thanks ladies, I could not have done it without you.

Mr Michael Looby, MC, fantastic job, thank you. This is when the enormity of the task ahead became a reality. A huge responsibility.

To all the dedicated people who work tirelessly “behind the scenes” for months and months, planning and delivering such a prestigious event, credit to you all. The show ran with the precision of a military operation. No attention to detail had been overlooked, amazing and the sheer generosity of all involved unbelievable.

I came to this judging appointment determined to find the composite elements which identify our breed from all the rest. I was looking for exhibits which in my mind epitomised the standard of the Cocker Spaniel.

Without exception the exhibits were presented in clean condition, the bite in one or two untidy with a misplaced tooth and point for consideration, tail sets were high, incorrect, on several exhibits.

I found depth of quality in numbers in the parti colours which on the whole, in my opinion, were stronger than the solids. In the solids, very generally speaking, I found some fronts to be upright with little return of upper arm which gives rise to short stilted movement with no ground covering on the move. I did however find some beautiful heads on the solids, particularly the bitches. That said, I was more than delighted with my winners, I handled lots of great dogs and in some classes I would have liked two sets of cards.

I thoroughly enjoyed my judging and have memories which will last for ever. There are some wonderful cockers in Australia, cockers which could hold their own amongst the best of the best anywhere.

Sincerley, thank you,

Pat Whitehead, Ryallcourt Cocker Spaniels.

Veteran Dog (AOC)

1st Royoni Kennels. Supreme GR Ch Royoni Hes True Blue. Blue, kind expression, dark eye, good reach of neck, mature body, deep chest, big ribs, short lion, level top line kept on the move, good bone, strong legs and feet, good turn of stifle, shown in excellent condition for age, a fabulous dog, easy to see why he has done the winning he has. **RUVIS.**

2nd G Woodward . NZ Ch, Gr Ch Milkwood Isaac Haze (Imp NZ). Masculine without coarseness, dark eye, short in loin, level top line, nice legs and feet, well balanced, good coat and condition, masculine without coarseness, dark eye, short in loin, level top line, nice legs and feet, well balanced.

3rd G & M Markotany . Supreme Gr Ch Bolwarra Rip Tide. This blue boy as really enjoying his outing and moved beautifully. A different type to 1 & 2, shown in great coat and condition.

Veteran Dog (Solid)

1st A Ugrinic. Supreme Gr Ch Manunga Musketeer. An upstanding black shown in full coat and excellent condition. Masculine head, strong topline but a little proud of his tail.

2nd L Mellett. Ch Canyon Classic Star (Imp UK). Gold, lighter in bone and substance than winner, great coat and hard condition.

Baby Puppy Dog (AOC)

I found the baby classes hard to judge as at this age they change almost daily, what a difference a week or two makes. Great to see so many babies, really exciting for the future and most were having a terrific time. So on the day:-

1st M Wade. Murrangower Whispering Time. Orange roan, raw baby but I liked him a lot. Super bone and feet, great substance, tail set on well and used on the move.

2nd B Petrowsky. Elspan Coat Of Arms. Blue of substance, preferred the shoulder placement of winner, lovely bone and small tight feet.

3rd G Goodward. Barbet Here Comes Mr American. This blue baby was older, deep body, level topline and good tail set.

Baby Puppy (Solid)

1st A Ugrinic. Ravensnite Happy Days. Black and tan, Raw but all there, lovely puppy. Very confident on the move, deep and the best angulation in this class. **RUBPIS**

2nd B Petrowski. Elspan Thunderbird. Black as nice as winner but reluctant on the move, a well-made puppy who was very sound once he got going but was certainly giving his handler a hard time today.

3rd G Douglas. Bathgate Ants In My Pants. Gold, not the bone and substance of 1 & 2. Pleasing head and expression, kind eye. Enjoying his day out.

Minor Puppy Dog (AOC)

1st G Robinson. Robmond Luna Shadowdance. Blue who stood alone, baby of quality, nice size for age. Super bone, legs and feet. Good angulation all through, deep chest, level topline, balanced and not exaggerated in any way.

Minor Puppy Dog (Solid)

1st D & S Heatlie. Mistduke Take A Chance. Red, a stylish youngster who moved well. Nice expression, well presented.

2nd Britebay Kennels. Britebay Might N Power. Black, masculine without coarseness, dark eye, short in loin, level top line, nice legs and feet, well balanced, good coat and condition,

3rd N & T Crocker & A Ugrinic. Pencandy Solo. Red, nice head and expression, dark eye, good reach of neck, fine shoulders, nice turn of stifle merry on the move once settled

Puppy Dog (AOC)

1st G Woodward. Barbet Back T You Jealous Ones. Blue, soft expression, good length of neck into well laid shoulders, deep body, level topline, short loin, nice turn of stifle, and well let down hocks. Did not put a foot wrong.

2nd D & M Bellamy. Belcroft All About Bling. Blue, super outline, balanced, good length of neck into fine shoulders, compact body, well ribbed, short loin, good hind angulation, moved with drive. Moving close in front today

3rd J Burbidge. Ashmere Whatever It Takes. Blue, balanced with good angulation, kind expression,

Puppy Dog (Solid)

1st N & T Crocker. Ravensnite Dark & Dangerous. Black, very happy on the move. Soft expression, good length of neck into well laid shoulders, deep body, level topline, short loin, nice turn of stifle, and well let down hocks.

Junior Dog (AOC)

1st A Hatherly. Bellebriar Timeline. Blue with all the essentials in all the right places. Masculine head with dark eye. Angulations exact both ends, deep and short. Stylish on the move. **BJIS.**

2nd A O'keefe. Ch Glenayden Nick Of Time. Another great example of the breed. So very well put together, no coarseness, no exaggeration. Just a true sound cocker put down to perfection.

3rd Royoni Kennels. Runcorn Heart Breaker. Soft expression, good length of neck into well laid shoulders, deep body, level topline, short loin, nice turn of stifle, and well let down hocks.

Junior Dog (Solid)

1st S Casbolt. Elspan Ruffle A Few Feathers. Very nice youngster indeed. Black, Beautiful head and expression, moved well, presentation excellent.

2nd J Bigg. Glenbrook Gala Performance. Black, masculine head, tight eye, nice length of neck, big ribs, good angulation, super bone and feet, not over done in any way, happy on the move.

3rd N & T Crocker. Lynmaken Walk O The Moon(AI) (Imp NZ). Black, nice head and expression, merry on the move, good hind angulation.

Intermediate Dog (AOC)

1st B Petrowski. Ch Elspan Carbon Copy. Blue, masculine head, tight eye, nice length of neck, big ribs, good angulation, super bone and feet, not over done in any way, happy on the move. Shown in the hardest condition, very capable of doing a full days work!, **B Int IS.**

2nd Royoni Kennels. Ch Royoni Never Say Never. Orange roan, most appealing, masculine expression, good reach of neck, well laid shoulders, level top line, short cobby body, plenty of depth, moved well with driving action, a true merry cocker

3rd A O'Keefe. Bencleuch Breaking News. Blue of true cockery type, pleasing balanced head, lovely expressive dark eyes, ample neck leading into nicely placed shoulders, well rounded ribcage, short and square, good angulation. Not enjoying his day out.

Intermediate Dog (Solid)

1st T Dennis. Tarrendale A Kiss From A Rose. Black, , balanced with good angulation, kind expression, very happy on the move, good length of neck, well sprung ribs, moved well. **RUInt IS**

2nd D & M Rochester. Ch Adjobi Only Heaven Knows. Black, balanced outline, good length of neck, well sprung ribs, moved well.

3rd B McIntyre. Maleanda Little Tin Man. Black, smaller type, masculine head and expression, nice bone, good legs and feet, good spring of rib and nicely rounded quarters.

Australian Bred Dog (AOC)

1st D & M Bellamy. Gr Ch Belcroft Believe It Or Not. Blue, super outline, balanced, good length of neck into fine shoulders, compact body, well ribbed, short loin, good hind angulation, moved with exuberance. **BABIS.**

2nd Royoni Kennels. Ch Royoni Look At Me. Blue, a little short of coat and not as animated on the move but similar comments as 1 apply.

3rd M Kingston & M & D Clarkson. Ch Kingsway Turn Me Free. A very honest black & white, correct size, masculine head, tight eye, nice length of neck, big ribs, good angulation, nice bone, not over done in any way, happy on the move. Preferred head of 1 & 2.

Australian Bred Dog (Solid)

1st J Biggs. Ch Glenbrook The Great Gatsby. Black, won this class with ease, kind expression, good length of neck, well placed shoulders, level top line kept on the move, good tail set, the best of legs and feet, moved well masculine without coarseness, moved with drive and purpose using his tail.

2nd C McLennan. Kalleo Hearts N Bones. Black, more mature than winner. Masculine head, tight eye, nice length of neck, big ribs, good angulation, super bone and feet, not over done in any way, happy on the move

3rd N & T Crocker. Ch Pencandy Digger. Gold, good head and eye, nice neck and shoulders, compact deep body, level top line, moved with drive and purpose, a little short of coat.

Open Dog (AOC)

1st A O'keefe. Ch Ryangaye Reason T Celebrate. A fabulous blue. When I got my hands on this boy I got goose bumps. Masculine head without coarseness, tight dark eye, clean neck and shoulders, good return of upper arm, well sprung ribs, deep body and nicely coupled with strong well angulated quarters. Good width to stifle, short hocks, neat feet moving with purpose and drive covering ground with ease this could have been in the field but here it was in the show ring . He moved with unerring enthusiasm stylishly and soundly. At one with his handler and presentation immaculate.**CC and BIS**

2nd A Hatherly. Ch Bellebriar New Time. Another super blue from this kennel, a lovely dog to handle, pleasant head, good bone, lovely legs and feet. Strong rib and well developed quarters. Strides out using his rear to good effect. This dog too could do a days work and enjoy every moment of it.

3rd Royoni Kennels. Ch Royoni Look Out For Me. kind expression, good length of neck, well placed shoulders, level top line kept on the move, good tail set, the best of legs and feet, masculine without coarseness, moved with drive and purpose using his tail.

Open Dog (Solid)

1st Britebay Kennels. Gr Ch Britebay Bush Tucker Man. Black, super outline, balanced, good length of neck into fine shoulders, compact body, well ribbed, short loin, good hind angulation, moved well.

2nd B Petrowski. Esp Ch Warrior LegendDe Dorondon Del Marquesado (Imp Esp). Gold, similar comments to 1 apply, shown in full coat, moved nicely.

3rd T Dennis. Am Ch Dawnglow It Shouldn't Be Legal (Imp USA) Red in full coat and excellent hard condition. Lovely head, soft expression, merry on the move, good hind angulation. Longer cast and not quite the front angulation.

Veteran Bitch (AOC)

1st D & M Bellamy. Nu Ch, Ch Anemos First Served To Travis (Imp Nor) Blue, A beautiful specimen from any angle, good angulation, moving freely with reach and drive, feminine head, good front, deep chest, strong loin, good bone and feet, tail well set and used. Beautifully balanced, A credit to her owners. **BVIS**

2nd B Petrowski. Dan Ch, Swe Ch, Ch Aone's Elenora (Imp Swe) Blue, feminine expression, good head and eye, nice neck and shoulders, compact deep body, level top line, moved with drive and purpose.

3rd D & M Bellamy. Sh Bellcroft Diamond Dayz., Blue, , beautifully constructed, lovely head and expression, ample bone tight thickly padded feet, short hocks, well handled, shown in excellent coat and condition, moved well.

Baby Puppy Bitch (AOC)

1st Royoni Kennels. Royoni Looking Delightful. Beautiful headed blue baby, well off for bone, short and square. Moved well.

2nd Royoni Kennels. Royoni Stylish Delight. Litter sister to winner, slightly larger and a little unsettled on the move, preferred the legs and feet on 2nd but she does not have the front angulation of her sister. Never the less two very nice babies.

3rd K Houston. Pinewaite Ill Be There. Beautiful neck into shoulders, a very compact pup for her age, with a great tail set. Not the expression of 1 & 2.

Baby Puppy Bitch (Solid)

1st M Wade. Murrangower Mocca Delight. Loved this solid liver pup. Dark pigment for liver Fabulous bone and substance for one so young. Pretty head, super angles front and rear, excellent turn of stifle, and attitude to die for. Hope her colour does not hold her back. **Best Baby Puppy In Show**

2nd B McIntyre. Maleanda Midnight Magic. Black, pleasing head with dark eye, super expression, short and square, moved with confidence. Her jacket is going to take some time.

3rd L Lack. Lybold Princess Firebird. Red, plenty of bone and substance, raw but all the essentials, nice puppy.

Minor Puppy Bitch (AOC)

1st S Casbolt. Elspan White Diamonds. Blue, baby of quality, correct size for age. Super bone, legs and feet. Good angulation all through, deep chest, level topline, balanced and not exaggerated in any way. **RU MPIS**

2nd D & M Bellamy. Belcroft Better Believe It. Blue, Super head and expression, excels in neck and shoulder . Short cobby body, super legs and feet, moved well

3rd G Robinson. Robmond Luna Acapella, Blue, a real baby, exuberant on the move, a true merry cocker. Lots to like about her, feminine head, dark eye, kind expression, ample neck, fine shoulders, level topline, deep body, good tail set. Needs time to mature.

Minor Puppy Bitch (Solid)

1st T Dennis. Tarrendayle Guilty Pleasures. Red Baby of quality, nice size for age, good angulation all through, deep chest, level topline, balanced and not exaggerated in any way. **BMPIS**

2nd M & D Rochester. Adjobi Tears In Her Eyes. Black, Well proportioned body. Good Angulation. The best of legs and feet, Shown in good coat and condition, moved well.

3rd A Ugrinic. Ravensnite Cook It Up. Red, , feminine expression, good head and eye, nice neck and shoulders, compact deep body, level top line, moved well.

Puppy Bitch (AOC)

1st A O'keefe. Glenayden Special News. **RCC and BPIS**

2nd A O'keefe. Glenayden Making News. My notes say, 1 & 2, difficult, splitting hairs. Preferred the neck into shoulder of 1st and also her expression. The same comments apply, two top class girls, both balanced all through, moving with drive and purpose. Excellent bone, legs and feet. Correct front assembly, good return of upper arm. Excellent turn of stifle and width of second thigh, short from hocks down. Level top line, kept on the move. Just beautiful. Quality. **RUPIS.**

3rd G & M Markotany. Bolwarra Smarty Pants. Blue, baby of quality, nice size for age, good angulation all through, deep chest, level topline, balanced and not exaggerated in any way Moved with drive and purpose.

Puppy Bitch (Solid)

1st B Petrowski. Elspan Bewitched. Black, Feminine expression, good reach of neck, well laid shoulders, level top line, short cobby body, plenty of depth, moved well with driving action, a true merry cocker.

2nd M & D Rochester. Adjobi Black Voodoo. Black, beautifully constructed, lovely head and expression, ample bone tight thickly padded feet, short hocks, well handled, shown in excellent coat and condition, moved well.

3rd A Ugrinic. Ravensnrite Brite N Breezy. Red, well proportioned body. Good Angulation. Shown in good coat and condition, moved well.

Junior Bitch (AOC)

1st A O'Keefe. Glenayden Mystic Time. Blue, another quality cocker from this kennel, feminine kind expression, dark eye, good reach of neck, mature body, deep chest, big ribs, short loin, level top line on the move, good bone, nice legs and feet, nice turn of stifle, shown in excellent condition.

2nd Talladji Kennels. Chewjep Laced To A Tee. Orange roan needed to be handled to be appreciated. Beautifully assembled with exceptional bone and substance. Balanced head with a soft expression moving soundly and accurately.

3rd Royoni Kennels. Royoni Watch Out I've Arrived. Blue, short deep compact body, beautifully balanced, moving freely keeping level topline, kind expression, feminine head, tight eye, well-muscled, super legs and feet.

Junior Bitch (Solid)

1st T Matthews. Ch Britebay Witch's Brew. Black, soft expression, good length of neck into well laid shoulders, deep body, level topline, short loin, nice turn of stifle, and well let down hocks. Did not put a foot wrong. **RUIIS**

2nd S McFadden & M & D Rochester. Adjobi Black Taboo. Black, not exaggerated in any way, balanced outline, good length of neck, well sprung ribs, moved well

3rd S Casbolt. Morningdale Lucky Dream. Black, I thought my class winner but reluctant on the move. Beautifully constructed lovely head and expression, ample bone tight thickly padded feet, short hocks, well handled, shown in excellent coat and condition.

Intermediate Bitch (AOC)

1st B Petrowski. Ch Elspan Liberty Belle. Blue, dark pigmentation, feminine expression, shown in hard condition and good coat, good angulation all through, level top line, good tail set, short hocks, moved well with drive.

2nd R & B Hayman. Ch Trimdon Sauterne. Blue, A beautiful specimen from any angle, good angulation, moving freely with reach and drive, feminine head, good front, deep chest, strong loin, good bone and feet, tail well set and used. Beautifully balanced.

3rd T Dennis. Tarrendayle Pretty Woman. Blue, , kind expression, good length of neck, well placed shoulders, level top line kept on the move, good tail set, the best of legs and feet, moved well.

Intermediate Bitch (Solid)

1st D & M Rochester. Ch Elspan True Reflection. Black, super outline, balanced, good length of neck into fine shoulders, compact body, well ribbed, short loin, good hind angulation, moved with drive.

2nd A Ugrinic. Manunga More Bang For Ya Bux. Red, different type to winner. Not the bone or substance. Lovely head and expression. Clean throat. Maintained firm topline whilst moving.

Australian Bred Bitch (AOC)

1st D & M Bellamy. Supreme Gr Ch Belcroft It's Showtime. Blue, feminine expression, good reach of neck, well laid shoulders, level top line, short cobby body, plenty of depth, moved well with driving action, a true merry cocker. **RU ABIS**

2nd A & M Jones and E & K Job. Ch Doulton Feature Model. Blue & Tan, balanced all through although bigger than winner. good angulation, moving freely with reach and drive, feminine head, good front, deep chest, strong loin, good bone and feet,

3rd R & D Duffield. Pinewaite My Sweet Lady. Built on finer lines than 1 & 2. Pleasing head, sound and confident on the move.

Australian Bred Bitch (Solid)

1st Britebay Kennels. Britebay Witchcraft. Black & Tan, balanced, good length of neck into fine shoulders, compact body, well ribbed, short loin, good hind angulation, moved well.

2nd B Petrowski. Ch Elspan Sea Shantie. Beautiful headed black, soft expression, big ribs, short in loin. Moved with drive and purpose.

3rd L Lack. Mistduke Bronte Magic. Red, Built on stronger lines, masculine head, tight eye, nice length of neck, big ribs, good angulation, nice bone, not over done in any way, happy on the move.

Open Bitch (AOC)

1st Royoni Kennels. Eng Sh Ch, Ch Lindridge Apricot Delight (Imp UK). Orange roan, feminine head, kind expression, dark eye, good reach of neck, mature body, deep chest, big ribs, short lion, level top line on the move, good bone, nice legs and feet, nice turn of stifle, shown in excellent condition, not too much coat. I thought she was super, no exaggeration, lovely to go over. Moved with drive and purpose. Beautiful. **CC and RUBIS**

2nd D & M Bellamy. Ch Belcroft Dare To Dream. Blue, Beautifully constructed lovely head and expression, ample bone tight thickly padded feet, short hocks, well handled, shown in excellent coat and condition, moved with ease and style, a credit to her owners. Unlucky to meet winner.

3rd A & M Jones and E & K Job. Ch Doulton Fascination. This blue was not co-operating with her handler and needed to be handled to be appreciated. Kind expression, dark eye, mature body, level top line on the move, good bone, nice legs and feet, nice turn of stifle, shown in good condition.

Open Bitch (Solid)

1st N & T Crocker. Ch Pencandy Go Between. This black in full coat and beautiful condition stood alone. kind expression, dark eye, good reach of neck, mature body, deep chest, big ribs, short lion, level top line on the move, good bone, nice legs and feet, nice turn of stifle,