

## NORTH OF ENGLAND WELSH SPRINGER SPANIEL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 12/4/2015

I was very honoured to judge at this welcoming, friendly, hospitable and well run show. The venue is excellent. I thank the officers, committee and exhibitors for inviting my opinion, and allowing me to go over their bitches. It was a most enjoyable day, informative to me to go over bitches I have observed from the ringside. It is a while since I judged and the breed has changed. We are custodians of the breed and should try and keep the type.

In a number of cases the breed standard has gone out the window. Bitches should be approximately 18" (46 cm) (up or down). We must watch the height problem, the bitches should be smaller than the dogs. The general appearance should be symmetrical, compact yet elegant, not up on the leg, built for endurance, in other words 'workmanlike'. They should be alert, appealing, not flashy like Irish Setters.

In some of the younger bitches the mouths could have been better. Toplines need attention, they should not be level. A few of the exhibits dropped at the croup, had no 'bum' and lacked second thigh. Some were close behind. I would like to see more rib in some dogs /bitches (not barrel). Unfortunately some bitches that I liked did not sparkle at the show.

I was pleased with my line-up and thrilled that my Open Bitch Sh Ch Ferndel Butterkist of Cwsscwm was BIS and my Puppy bitch Nyliram Miss Joules was BPIS with the agreement of my co-judge. RBIS and BOS was Furness Way from Minebea to Nyliram, BV was Glenbrows Sh Ch Picture This.

MPB (6) 1. Perkins' Taimeres Tickle my Fancy at Brent. 6 mths. Compact, proportionate and balanced puppy. Pretty head with soft expression, good length of neck into well set shoulders, well angulated front and rear, showing good movement and good tail set. More confident than her sister. 2. Lemins Bonvis Sweet Jasmine. 7 mths. Very little between 1 and 2. Similar remarks, lovely outline. Just preferred balance of 1. Both had good size and bone. 3. Tain's Taimeres Takes the Biscuit. PB (4,1a) Graham's Nyliram Miss Joules. 9 mths. 'What a stunner! Super outline, balanced, pretty feminine head into good neck leading to sloping shoulders. Her front has tightened with age. Good spring and depth of rib, compact loin and strong hindquarters. Moved out happily and freely. Would like to take her home. BPB and BPIS. 2. Perkins' Taimeres Tickle my Fancy. Unlucky to meet 1. 3. Clark & Casey's Tigerrock Perfect Ten. JB (9,2a) 1. Nice class Le Maitre's Pamicks Alice Spring at Vannelmead. 13 mths mature bitch, up to size for age. Feminine head, nice eye expression. Correct body proportions, lovely bone and feet. Good front and rear assembly, thus moved with drive. 2. Place's Tammano Cadell at Aarminias. 16 mths. Very pretty typy bitch in good condition. Good overall balance, outline and angulation. Beautiful proportionate head with good stop and ear set. 3. Backhouse Glenbrows Truth about Aindrea. YB (10,1a) Very little between 1 and 2, both very well presented and angulated. 1. Tully's Bushwaker Gregorys Girl at Highclare. 19 mth. Very smart eye-catching young lady. Super outline. Balanced, proportionate, good head, eyes, bone and feet. Lacking feathering at the moment which would complete the picture, but conformation is more important. 2. Schofield & Morgan's Ferndel Silhoutte at Cwsscwm 18 mths A very attractive balanced feminine bitch. Sweet head and soft expressive eyes. Correct strong neck into well laid shoulders. Good front, body and rear which meant she moved with drive. When mature will trouble the best. 3. Worth's Sarabande River Breeze. VB (5) Knowles' Menstonia Memories Past. 7yr old. A favourite of mine. Smart, typy and balanced. Good body proportions, firm front and rear, straight front and well angled hindquarters. Nice head eyes and ears, into correct neck and onto good lay of shoulder Moved out well with drive. 2. Ritchie's Sh Ch Hillrobin Galaxy at Slapstones JW 9 yr old. A worthy champion. Well presented, feminine bitch, proportioned, good head and kind expression. Moved with drive, her topline improved on the move, though beginning to show her age. Preferred the profile of 1. 3. Michie's Tobermyn Dawn Chorus. MB. (9,1a) 1. Graham's Nyliram Miss Joules. 2. Perkin's Taimeres Tickle my Fancy at Brent. 3. Clarke's Tigerrock Keep the Faith. NB (9,1a) 1. Graham's Nyliram Miss Joules. 2. Perkin's Taimeres Tickle My Fancy at Brent. 3. Backhouse's Glenbrows Truth about Aindrea. GB (5) Good class. 1. Millard's Ferndel Fairy Tale. Very pretty feminine bitch, correct height and balanced. Attractive head, soft expression and correct ear set. Good length of neck into well placed shoulders. Straight front and rear angulation, enabling her to move with drive. Nice depth of body. Will trouble the best when older. 2. Frost's Cochnaid Carter Diamond. Stronger, heavier and

longer bitch. Good proportionate head, well angulated all through. Deep body and well muscled. Would like more bum, good tail set. 3. Le Maitre's Pamicks Alice Springs to Vannelmead. PGB (8, 1a) Splitting hairs between 1 and 2. 1. Graham and Denwood's Lyndfil Zazu Pretty elegant bitch, balanced, proportionate and well angulated all through. Sweet head, lovely backend with a bum and good tail set, good pussy feet, well presented and moved well. More tummy feathering will complete the picture. 2. Woodward and Thomas' Bowdenia Time to Dream. One I have always admired. Slower to mature than her sister. Nice broken coat. Pretty head. An honest bitch with substance. Good proportions, bone and rear angulation. Preferred the overall balance of 1. 3. Frost's Cochnaid Cartier Diamond. MDL. (3, 1a) Leary's Menstonia Minty of Haslemount Won the class with ease and pushed for top honours, but had to give way to maturity. A picture, feminine, compact bitch. Super outline, correct height and top line, balanced, lovely angulation, sweet head, good straight front, bone, tail set and feet, well muscled. Moved well. 2. Clarke's Tigerrock Trouble in a Bubble. Broken coated, super outline. To me a proper workmanlike Welshie, compact honest, not flashy. Pretty head, a little bit narrow in the muzzle. Good body with substance. LB (10). A strong class.. Both 1 and 2 were well up to size, more than I personally like and had substance. 1. Janes' Coedybrain Menna. My type of Welshie. Attractive broken coat, honest, workmanlike. Now matured. Lovely outline, with correct topline and tailset. Good bone, head and angulation. Well coated. 2. Tew's Pamicks Tilly Trotting JW. Strong bitch, longer than 1. Kind head, good bone, shoulders and coat. Very good angles, well presented and drove round ring.. 3. Thomas' Bowdonia Star Catcher. OB (6) Super class. Both 1 and 2 are deceptive from the ringside and one needs 'a hands on'. Because of the markings 1 does not look very deep and 2 does not look to have the width. Both assumptions wrong. 1. Schofield and Morgan's Ferndel Butterkist Cwsscwn JW. What a lovely bitch. Fills the eye. Beautifully presented, gleaming coat, ultra feminine. Balanced, proportionate. Sweet soft expressive well set eyes, correctly measured head. Nice length of neck into well angled shoulders and forearm. Width of chest, depth of body/brisket. Short coupled, height to length, top line, tail set and bum, all that is to be desired. Drove like a bat out of hell round the ring from her muscular rear end. CC and delighted that she was BIS. 2. Caffrey and Dods' Gellyburn Gaelic Damsel at Balcraig My opinion of this bitch altered as soon as I put my hands on her. Different to 1, although half sisters, but the mothers were not similar. Classic outline, feminine, not flashy, has matured, good coat, well presented and moved well. Just preferred the angulation of 1. 3. Thomas' Sh Ch Bowdonia Moment to Shine. I have seen her perform better than this. Special Beginners (7, 2a) 1. Le Maitre's Pamicks Alice Springs to Vannelmead 2. Lemin's Bonvis Fern, unplaced in strong limit class. Pretty feminine head. A proper workmanlike Welshie and the height I like. Good bone and proportions, fits the bill. 3. Yacoub's Bushwacker Perfect Storm for Laithmoor

JEAN LUCKETT-ROYNON

JUDGE