

SOUTHERN ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL SOCIETY CH SHOW.

12TH JULY 2026

It was a great pleasure to judge the Ch Show of the Southern English Springer Spaniel Society. Thanks to my stewards Paul and Louise who kept everything in order.

I enjoyed the entry on the whole. As always there were a few variations of type, but most were acceptable. I gave some leeway with attitude and willingness to move on account of the heat.

The mouths all were perfect as were the temperaments. All exhibits were happy to be examined - no nerves unlike other breeds. Presentation was pretty good, all were clean with weatherproof coats. Size was fairly uniform.

The main problem today was lack of muscle and very close rear movement, which means there is no drive behind. An adult springer needs a big strong driving hindquarter with some width across the pelvis and a good second thigh. There were a few long loins which can mean a weakness in body and not desirable in a working breed. The ring surface highlighted those with less than perfect feet.

Heads were highly varied! A couple were rather overdone, even for me, and a few more were the opposite, - long and narrow. Eyes were also varied, some rather light although the shape was generally correct. Ears were generally sensible, set properly and not low (the standard asks for set in line with eye) - a low set gives a Cockery look to the whole head.

A fair percentage of the entry were around the two years old mark. This included a few I would happily sign a CC for but they looked their age, and in a slow maturing breed another year or two will work wonders.

MINOR PUPPY DOG (1)

1ST PEASBLOSSOM FIDELIO AT SWIFTFLUSH (Gledhill)

L/W , just 6 months and about the right stage of development for age as he looks like a puppy and not an adult. Head is well balanced enough needs more fill over the eyes, but is well chiseled. Has a good eye shape, with a darker colour than some of the adults. Ear set OK, not too low. Fairly decent forehand, with well placed shoulders and enough upper arm. Neck flows well into body, with a strong topline, and well proportioned outline. Obviously he needs to rib up and deepen in body and to gain forechest. Sensible hindquarters, not over angled but would like him slightly shorter in rear pastern. Tailset is good with pleasing carriage for a young lad. Well boned for age with OK feet. Front movement was good and he had good footfall from the side. Like a lot today his rear movement was close and he lacked drive. Shiny weatherproof coat.

PUPPY DOG (0)

JUNIOR DOG (1)

1ST FAVOURS JOYRIDE TO BAUDELAIRE (IMP SWEDEN) (Field Endicott)

young man of 15 months, and very much a gawky teenager. At the moment he is somewhat upright all over. Time should do a lot for him, he needs to develop in rib and deepen in body. His head also needs to mature as he is quite plain here at present. However he has a good eye with a delightfully naughty expression. The coat is nicely weatherproof and functional . He is straight in upper arm, and needs to strengthen in quarters. His topline was strong and side gait was good with some reach in

front. The rear movement was weak, and coming towards me he was somewhat wild. Has a lot of maturing to do.

YEARLING DOG (1/1)

NOVICE DOG (0)

GRADUATE DOG (5)

1ST EASTRIDING ROYAL GOLD (Jenkinson)

Appealing young man, just out of Junior. Well balanced springer head with plenty of strength and masculinity, just needs to break further. Super dark eye and typical expression. Properly set ears, not too low. Striking and balanced outline, well laid shoulders with just enough upper arm. Sensible amount of neck with shape and strength. Compact body, strong topline and decent tailset with plenty of hindquarter angulation. Super coat well presented. Moved happily although tended to overreach and was a bit untidy behind. Still young and maturing nicely.

2ND KINGSHEATH SUNDANCE (Fitchett)

Quite a blast from the past. B/W who is strong but pleasing enough in head. I remember at the Southern shows in the 70s there would be plenty of these types of heads in the entry. He has a good eye and expression, good rib, strong topline and plenty of bone. Not the most lively on the move but sound enough.

3RD FORGESPRING TOMFOOLERY (Turrell)

Aptly named as he was quite happy to play the fool! B/W character who has an attractive outline and good bone and feet. He needs to body up but is only a youngster and has plenty of time. I'm sure he will behave better on the move next time. Well presented in lovely coat.

POST GRADUATE DOG (2) Just two entries but a lovely pair of boys.

1ST BERESFORD STAND AT EASE (JW) (Topliss)

L/W, Very good type of young male, just and still at teenage stage. Pleasing head and eye with good expression. Plenty of chiseling and fluting however would like more width of muzzle and underjaw, but this will come. Balanced outline, plenty of leg and a super front construction with tight elbows. Correct bone and feet. He had a strong topline on the move when he settled, happy enough on the stack but a little apprehensive on the move. Covered the ground as one would expect with his build. His handler did a great power stack with him in the Dog challenge, and I considered him but he still needs time as he is nowhere near his best as yet.

2ND DAENERYS PLAYING WITH FIRE (Allery)

L/W, slightly different type to winner, but a most promising youngster. Sensible head, with pleasing eye and expression, and correct earset. He has a neat compact outline, and stacks up well. Reasonable forehand, strong topline and well angled behind. Would like better feet. Good coat texture. Needs to relax on the move and he has a slightly high tail carriage when moving. Needs time to mature.

MID LIMIT DOG (2)

1ST PEASBLOSSOM BROGAN AT GAOLACHCARA (Stevenson)

L/W dog of 3 ½ years. I remember judging him before as a raw youngster and thought he was a nice boy but needed time. Well, he has blossomed into a totally correct and impressive dog. There's nothing exaggerated or overdone, just a super old fashioned and proper Springer.

Clean well balanced head, well chiseled, nicely broad with good foreface and a strength of jaw that could carry a pheasant. Correctly shaped dark eyes, that looks at you right, as my mother would say! Muscular neck, enough length but not overdone. His outline is balanced and compact with no extra length, but a short loin and strong topline, well set tail, carried properly. Has plenty of substance and well sprung ribs. Balanced angulation at both ends, tight elbows and strong clean bone with well padded feet. Moderate quarters that are well muscled and accounted for his sound driving movement. He reminded me of some of the significant Champions of the 70s.
Dog CC in a quality line up.

2ND KINGSHEATH SUNDANCE (Fitchett)

LIMIT DOG (2) Two typical springers who were hard to separate.

1ST MORE THAN AMAZING WANNA BE A GANGSTER AT SPUFFING (IMP BEL) (Weyman)
L/W/T of moderation and strength who is maturing well. Sensible masculine head, nicely broad without being overdone, with plenty of fluting. Balanced skull with decent foreface and underjaw. Well set ears that set off the whole Springer look to the head. Excellent forequarters, well laid shoulders and good upper arm with forelegs well underneath him and elbows set tightly. Strong neck, of good length set really well which earned him his place today. Correct topline with well let down quarters. Excellent coat and condition. Moved well enough with a super happy temperament.

2ND BERESFORD STAND N STARE (Topliss)

Super young L/W male, a year younger than winner which was evident today. Everything is there, lovely breed type, excellent angles, plenty of leg and a very strong topline. He just needs another year of maturing, particularly in body. He has a balanced head and proper expression, would like more underjaw but that will come. Big hindquarters, lots of width and well let down behind. Plenty of well tailored coat of the right texture. On the move he showed great reach and covered the ground well, just needs to settle in front. Super happy temperament. He's an impressive youngster, who should make a super impressive adult.

OPEN DOG (4) A most interesting class, three excellent boys, and all totally different!

1ST GREG DE LES LLACUNES (IMP ESP) (Gledhill)

First time I've properly had my hands on this L/W, now 6 ½, and he was worth the wait. A lovely stamp of Springer, with one of the best heads in the entry. He has a balanced and well developed skull, moderate stop with plenty of chiseling, a decent width of head with good back skull. His eye and expression are perfect, he looks at you so kindly with dark eyes which are the right shape. Ears are set right, not cockery. His front assembly is strongly built and correctly angled with a sensible length of neck and strong bone and fairly decent feet. Compact outline with correct topline and strong hefty quarters of good width. He moved soundly, covering the ground happily enough although the heat affected him somewhat. Weatherproof coat, well presented. RES CC

2ND MELTAROSE MIDSHIPMAN (Rowlison)

Another 6 year old, in his prime. L/W/T and a beautiful type. Nice size, balanced all through and free from exaggeration. Most pleasing head, although I just preferred the extra strength of winner. Good eye and expression, correct head planes and well set ears. Moderate neck length, set well into a decent front assembly. Compact body, strong topline and super wide quarters with neat hocks, with proper bone and some of the best feet. Tail set well and carried happily. Good coat, well prepared, handled sympathetically. Hope his 3rd CC comes soon.

3RD BERESFORD ON MY WAY WITH ACREGATE (Tracz)

Another top quality dog. Strong, balanced and full of breed type. Masculine in head, would like more length to skull and extra chiseling but he has a lovely dark eye and good expression. Great neck and well angled forequarters. Strong topline and really positive in the hindquarters, with plenty of second thigh. Well set tail. Good on the move, just needs to settle in front. Fabulous coat and presentation.

VETERAN DOG (0)

SPECIAL BEGINNERS DOG (1)

1ST KINGSHEATH SUNDANCE (Fitchett)

PRESIDENT OPEN STAKES DOG (0)

MINOR PUPPY BITCH (1)

1ST MOONTORN DARE TO DREAM WITH DEXBENELLA (Walker/Walker/Bellamy)

good sized feminine puppy, 8 ½ months with a balanced outline. Well shaped head, plenty of chiseling, proper ear set, correct eye shape but the colour needs to darken. Strong neck of sensible length, well conformed front assembly, super bone and feet. Excellent substance for age, good topline and moved well with good footfall and showed off her happy temperament. Good coat texture, well prepared. BEST PUPPY

PUPPY BITCH (1)

1ST EASTRIDING GOLD DUST (Jenkinson)

Stylish young L/W lady of 10 months. Well balanced with good dimensions all through. Good head for her age, would like a much darker eye that would improve her expression. Plenty of substance for her age, with a good neck and excellent topline, would prefer more upper arm in front. Moved well, covering the ground with excellent rear movement, but could tighten in front. Most pleasing bone and feet, presented beautifully.

JUNIOR BITCH (1)

1ST PETRANELLA STRIKE A POSE (Savell)

L/W of just 13 months. Quite mature and has plenty of rib and substance for age. Most pleasing head, feminine but with strength good eye and expression with nicely darkening eye. Has a good muzzle and width of underjaw. Strong neck and copybook front assembly, plenty of rib, and substance, strong topline and well let down behind. Moved well with purpose from rear and has good foot fall. Just a little wide coming towards me. Super coat.

YEARLING BITCH (5/3)

1ST SPUFFING DAIQUIRI AT GAOLACHCARA JW (Stevenson)

L/W Moderate and muscular and so fit for function, this young lady was rather a revelation. She's pleasing enough from the ringside but when you examine her you discover her full potential. Strong but feminine head, plenty of work in it, the best of dark eyes and typical Springer expression, Balanced in profile and with strong underjaw that could easily retrieve a pheasant. Proper earset. Her neck flowed into a great front construction, with well laid shoulder and plenty of upper arm. Quite substantial all through without being overdone. Strong deep hindquarters with well muscled

second thigh. Highly enthusiastic on the move with loads of reach and drive which in a fabulous line up, gained her the RES CC.

2ND EASTRIDING ROYAL STYLE (Jenkinson)

Another lovely springer and rather unlucky to meet winner today. Almost 2 and has a lovely outline, well balanced and racy in build. Clean in head which is developing well, eye is darkening. Pleasing in front, well off for bone, good topline and tailset with a strong well angled rear. Needs to strengthen in front pasterns. On the move has good side gait and footfall, front movement is pleasing but moving close behind today. Still maturing and very much a teenager in waiting.

NOVICE BITCH (3/1)

1ST PETRANELLA STRIKE A POSE (Savell)

2ND BAUDELAIRE HARVEST SUN (Field Endicott)

Feminine B/W/T with a pleasing and well balanced head, good eye and expression, moderate neck, carrying too much weight which didn't help her on the move. Her side gait was good but she needs to improve coming and going. Front pasterns were somewhat slack.

GRADUATE BITCH (7)

1ST SPUFFING BELLINI JW (Weyman)

L/W nearly 2 years. Very old school ESS in type, with a compact balanced outline and correct size. Has a lovely head with some width depth and femininity. She has a beautiful dark eye and proper expression, one of the best of the entry. Well conformed all through, copybook front construction, strong topline and really strong hindquarters with sensible angles. Clean bone and good feet. Moved out well covering the ground and showing a cheerful personality. Plenty of well prepared weatherproof coat.

2ND MEONSTOKE WILD THYME IR JCH (Taubman)

L/W and another classy bitch who was unlucky to meet the winner. Very similar in many ways, moderate and unexaggerated, lovely old fashioned head, with chiseling and fluting, moderate stop and good head planes. Clean in throat, strong neck, plenty of upper arm, well made and substantial body, short loin and good quarters. Well boned and strong pasterns with well padded feet. Well textured coat. Just needs to darken in eye. Was not so together on the move as winner.

3RD FORGESPRING NOBODYS FOOL AT BLISSENBEA (Procter)

Feminine and appealing B/W, strong body with a good neck set, pleasing shoulders with tight elbows and strong bone and well padded feet. She needs to develop more in head but as she only 2 that should happen. Moved well once she settled. In super coat and condition.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (4/4)

MID LIMIT BITCH (5/2)

1ST BERESFORD STAND ON CEREMONY JW (Topliss)

A young L/W that has it all to come. Like her brothers nowhere near her best as yet, super stylish outline with good length of leg, and she catches your eye. Her head is maturing into something special, so feminine, with plenty of work in it. Well shaped dark eye and lovely expression. Pleasing front construction, sensible length of neck, excellent topline and tailset. Lovely big quarters and good second thigh. Covered the ground well on the move and well handled to display this to good effect. Coat is weatherproof and just the right amount!

2ND SPUFFING PROSECCO (Weyman)

Dam of the 2 previous class winners and much the same stamp. Love her head, so typical with the width required, and has a super eye and expression. Compact outline and well built all over, with balanced angles. Strong neck, proper topline and good hindquarters. Moved well. Not the feet and pasterns of winner.

3RD PETRANELLA PERFICK BLISS AT BLISSENBEA (Proctor)

L/W 5 ½ and nicely mature. Good size and pleasing outline. Plenty of strength through body with a muscled neck and good topline. Well off for bone. Very happy mover. Would like more strength through muzzle.

LIMIT BITCH (7/3)

1ST DEXBENELLA DOUBLE TAKE (Walker)

L/W coming up to 5 years. Neat bitch, short coupled and clean in outline. Most pleasing springer head, well balanced, decent underjaw and well set sensible ears. Properly shaped dark eye with good expression. Excellent forehead, strong deep ribs and has plenty of substance, but retains her racy appearance. Big strong quarters but a little extreme in rear angulation. Super bone and the best of feet. Moved soundly. Weatherproof coat well prepared.

2ND BARECHO FAME QUEEN AT EASTRIDING (IMP SWE) (Jenkinson)

4 years old L/W. Another feminine and shapely bitch. Well balanced and sound, nicely put together with a strong neck of moderate length, strong topline and good tailset. Well laid shoulders and moderately angled hindquarters with neat hocks. Top coat wayward but weatherproof. I preferred the strength of head of winner today.

3RD SEASPRING WINDCATCHER AT CHIPEWYAN (Strover)

Pleasing B/W, a good, old style type of bitch, pleasing head with femininity and enough strength. Nicely made with compact body, good angles and strong loin. Excellent bone and feet.

OPEN BITCH (5/1)

1ST SH CH MELVERLY IRIDESCENT (Smith)

L/W/T bitch on top form today, I have never seen her look better. Coming up to 4, she is now in her prime, fully matured and perfectly proportioned. Everything flowed from nose to tail and she was stacked sympathetically to accentuate her many qualities. Has a well balanced and feminine head, strong underjaw and good eye and expression. I would like more work through the stop. Good ear set. Strong neck of sensible length, well placed shoulders and good upper arm, excellent ribs and chest development, and a super strong loin. Muscled quarters with short strong hocks, strong bone, reasonable feet. Covered the ground quietly and happily with lovely tail action showing plenty of personality. In excellent coat. Had some younger opposition for the bitch Challenge but held her own for the CC and BIS.

2ND IR SH CH MELTAROSE MADELEINE AT MEONSTOKE (Taubman)

Another I liked a lot. Very old school, with a clean moderate outline, beautiful head, balanced with the correct amount of stop and foreface. Lovely dark eye and melting expression. Strong neck of the right length, decent front construction, with a well built body and good hindquarters. Proper bone and neat feet. Sound and happy on the move and at one with her handler.

3RD SEASPRING WINDCATCHER AT CHIPEWYAN (Strover)

VETERAN BITCH (2/1)

1ST COBHAY FANCY PHLOX (Williams/Toubic)

L/W of nearly 8. Pleasing head and eye, with good expression. Decent chest, plenty of chest reasonable front assembly with tight elbows and good bone. Good topline but rather long in loin. Moved happily enough, rather close behind.

SPECIAL BEGINNERS BITCH (4/1)

1ST MEONSTOKE WILD CHERRY AT HARVANCOURT (Turvey/Murray)

L/W 2 year old, of very pleasing type, with a correct head and lovely eye and expression. Strongly made body with good angles, good bone but would like better feet. In excellent coat and very well handled.

2ND FORGESPRING FOOLPROOF (Pattison)

B/W/T of just 2 years. Pleasing enough head, with a nice expression. Good size, nicely made with all the essentials. Decent length of leg, good topline, won here in her more compact body and better loin. Well presented coat.

3rd FORGESPRING FOOL ME ONCE (Stephens)

B/W Sister to 2nd. Nice head, dark eye and good expression. Very much a baby compared to her litter sister. In super coat and condition.

PRESIDENT OPEN STAKES BITCH (4/3)

1ST CRACKERJANNE CASSIOPEIA (Pattison)

Well matured B/W who is nicely conformed and decently angled front and rear. Good head shape with pleasing stop and plenty of work in it. Dark eye and appealing expression. Typical bone and feet. Moved OK and has a super coat. Just a little long in body.

Kate Keely

JUDGE