

ESSC of Scotland November 11th 2023 - Judge: Pauline Wallis (Pendarlow)



BEST IN SHOW: CORBETT, Miss S J Sh Ch Trimere Time Fly's
RBIS: CALVERT, Mr M & Mrs N Sh Ch Calvdale Flutter JW
Best Dog: JENKINSON, Mrs K Eastriding Royal Black
Res Best Dog: ROSE, Mrs E Westaway Dream Angus of Rosannoch (imp Nor)
Best Bitch: CORBETT, Miss S J Sh Ch Trimere Time Fly's
Res Best Bitch: CALVERT, Mr M & Mrs N Sh Ch Calvdale Flutter JW
Best Puppy: CALVERT, Mr M & Mrs N Calvdale With Respect
Best Veteran: ROSE, Mrs E Westaway Dream Angus of Rosannoch (imp Nor)
Best Black & White: JENKINSON, Mrs K Eastriding Royal Black

I would like to say thank you to the committee of The English Springer Spaniel Club of Scotland for inviting me to judge at their breed club open show, and for the thoughtful memento of the day that they presented me with. Also the two helpful stewards who I believe stayed on from the main show. I had mixed emotions accepting this appointment, as I am not really an advocate of back to back shows. I understand the logistics of it today when dog showing is going through so many changes, but when GBAS changed to a new venue the other shows had to go with. I was so disappointed, on arrival to be confronted by a black mirrored floor surface that was more conducive to a performance of Torville and Dean's Bolero than showing dogs.

It is daunting being a newby in any breed, but some more so than others, so a thank you to those that have helped and encouraged over the years, and I would like to say a heartfelt "Thank You" to all of you that were kind enough to give me an entry today and allow me the privilege of going over your

lovely dogs, I was lucky to have so many and I found something to like about each and every one. To add insult to injury a 2 foot drain ran down the side of the ring, and I think the exhibitors were amazing today for persevering and not packing up and going home. Rightly or wrongly, presentation is not the starting point for me but rather the finish, construction, breed type and movement are all first and foremost. I could watch a springer with movement that is "strictly his own" all day, and it was sad that so many paid the price today for an awful floor surface.

Veteran Dog/Bitch (2,0)

1st Rose's Westaway Dream Angus of Rosannoch L/W A strong and symmetrical 8 year old male dog. He has a head that is masculine, with enough chiselling below his dark almond shaped eyes he has that kind spaniel expression, but with a glint of mischievousness about him. A muscular neck leads to a sloping shoulder, with excellent return of upper arm and layback, straight well boned fore limbs little wonder that he moves with such reach in front. Deep in chest, with plenty of heart room, a strong rear end with a well developed thigh, that he can use to real advantage. I have seen him on past occasions giving his handler a hard time, however today he had his sensible head on, and his handler got the best out of him slowing him down and letting his strong flexible pasterns do the work. He is still as sound as a bell and moved true and freely. Holding his years well, he is in tip top condition, he still has excellent coat condition and muscle tone, a real credit to his owner. I never understand why so many judges will pass over a veteran for top honours, after all, it's only a birthday not a best by date. I was pleased to give him BV and RBD.

2nd Joyce's Kingsheath Total Diva at Felltops L/W What a shame these golden oldies did not have the own classes, both deserved to win a class. Just a few months into her veteran years, there is no hint of age in her head. Balanced in foreface and back skull, good length and width to ears that are correctly set in line with her lovely dark eyes. Possessing a feminine look and such a soft melting expression. Strong in neck, she has a sloping shoulder, with correct return. Still has strength in her topline, and muscle tone in her moderate rear end. On the move she was steady enough, but just couldn't quite match the dog. Her low set tail with it's lively action was indicative of her happy disposition, and it's good to see the veterans still enjoying life. She too is in excellent condition.

Minor Puppy Dog (1,0)

1st Calvert's Calvdale With Respect A mature upstanding youngster, at just over 6 months old, he already has a lot to like about him. Very well balanced for one so young. His head is of medium length and very appealing, with a proportionate length of back skull to muzzle, eyes are of medium size with correct almond shape and have already started to darken, Wonderful strong arched neck that flows so well into super shoulder angulation. Strong in rear end, with moderate angulation. His construction suggested he should also move well, but unfortunately, his understandable, uncertainty of what was beneath his compact feet, meant he was intent on putting all his young handler's capabilities to the test. Once he was settled he moved freely but very, very steadily, he was straight enough on the up and back. He had settled a bit more for the challenge. BPD In the main challenge, he was sympathetically handled by his owner, and moved out a lot better and with a more conviction, pleased to award him BPIS and BMPIS.

Puppy Dog (1,0)

1st Stevenson's Peasblossom Brogan at Gaolachcara 11 months old. Another with a very appealing head, it is balanced, back skull is broad enough, ears are set close to head in line with eyes. A longer reach of neck than the minor puppy, but again with a slight arch and clean through the throat. A depth of chest that will obviously develop even further, elbows are tight and he has enough bone at this age. Rear angulation is moderate, with plenty of width to his second thigh but still needing to strengthen up all round. Just moving into that rangy adolescent age, he appears a bit leggy at this stage, a drop of coat would help. Movement again was steady, but struggling with the floor meant his movement

coming and going was hard to assess. Nevertheless he is another smart youngster. Just preferred the maturity and balance of the younger puppy on the day. Presented in a gleaming coat.

Special Yearling Dog (1,0)

1st Wilson & Connor's Pineroch No Stunts Larrie Not yet two years old. This dog is eye catching and flamboyant. Stacked his coat markings can lead the eye, put your hands on him and it's a different story. His head is masculine, balanced and without heaviness, eyes are correct size and shape, but being picky for me pigmentation just needs to darken some more. Fluting between his eyes, with enough of a stop. Ear set is close to the head. His forechest has depth and width to it, ribbing is sprung and deep. A firm adequate length of back gives him his symmetrical, compact appearance. Hindlegs are well let down, with a strong muscular width of thigh. Angulation front and rear is super, and boy does he put it to good use, my notes said movement – WOW! In profile this dog really is, "strictly his own" with movement that is rarely seen today. He opens up and covers the ground, with a straight forward throw from the shoulder giving him reach, hocks are well under him, enabling him to drive with full advantage. For me on a surface like today, I would have liked to have seen him moved, if possible, slightly slower, which may have helped his footfall coming and going. I hope he does well, and I am sure he has lot to offer the breed.

Graduate Dog (1,0)

1st Scorgie & Mcnicol's Pineroch Mischief Maker Litter brother to dog in the previous class, a lot to like about him as well, he has many of the same attributes and similar comments will obviously apply. Unlike his brother his liver jacket stops just above his tidy hocks, so doesn't give such a false impression of length. Slightly smaller in stature, he still has height to the leg and a look of raciness about him. Head is not as balanced at this stage, but should re address it's self as he matures, flat cheeks and enough working to the foreface with a depth flew giving him a squareness to his muzzle, ears well set, with a soft, alert expression. He has good strength and length to his arched neck. A well laid sloping shoulder, straight front limbs, elbows tightly set into a deep well sprung chest. He is close coupled with moderate rear angulation. On the move, even with neat, compact and well padded feet he struggled to cope with the flooring. In lovely condition, he has a straight coat and moderate feathering throughout. Handsome lad.

Limit Dog (3,0)

1st Jenkinson's Eastriding Royal Black B/W 3 year old dog Highest on leg and raciest in build of all British land spaniels, and he certainly is, more of a traditional type that is not seen so much today. His head which is in keeping with the rest of his frame, is not as heavy as some that are around. There is such a diversity of make and shape that it comes down to interpretation of the breed standard and personal taste, for me it was a bit of a surprise to find a dog of this type. His head is of balanced proportions, square in muzzle and a domed back skull, with just the right amount of fluting between his eyes, and enough chiselling below them. Eyes were dark, medium sized and almond shaped, ears were of good length and width, and close to his head, all combining to give him the kind spaniel expression required. His slightly arched neck is of good length and flows into a well laid sloping shoulder, deep in chest, with his elbows set well in and although he stands over a bit of ground, he is close coupled with moderate angulation in his rear quarters. He moved out well enough, showing some reach in profile, and he coped with the flooring better than most away and back. I was pleased to award him BD & BB/W, he only lost out in BIS to two super bitches.

2nd Topliss' Beresford Bolt From The Blue Very much a different type to the winner. Masculine head that is not coarse or overdone in anyway, and certainly appeals with his kind expression. He has a tapering, muscular neck that also flows into a well laid back shoulder. Strong level topline, and loin, he has an impressive sprung rib. Well rounded, compact feet. He powered round the ring, managing to keep a grip on the floor, giving him a true enough action forward and back.

3rd Ganarin's Berkenbar Giovanni

Open Dog (3,2)

1st Knapp's Templecarrig High Hope A dog also of traditional mould, but heavier set all through than the limit dog. Another with a classic head, possessing many of the breed standard requirements, medium sized, almond shaped eye that is dark in colour, his chiselled, deep foreface was of equal length to his broad, but slightly rounded skull. He was watching my every movement, with that alert, hopeful, inquisitiveness that is so typically English Springer. Well set ears, of good length. He has a strong and muscular neck of adequate length. Front and rear construction was good, with moderation in rear. A good width to his forechest, with plenty of heart room, his topline was firm, which he held on the move. He moved freely enough and with some degree of reach, which hats off to the dog, as even when he was stacked I felt he wasn't entirely comfortable on the surface.

Minor Puppy Bitch (2,0)

1st Calvert's Elazlan Coronation Day 7 months old She has the sweetest, feminine head with a kind inquisitive expression, eye colour is dark hazel, and hopefully everything will develop in the right way, her head will balance up, eyelids and nostrils will darken with age. Her shoulder angulation is good, and she has depth to her well rounded chest, strong in topline and loin she has such a well developed, muscular width of thigh for a youngster. A sturdy puppy, standing on tight compact feet. What she had in abundance today was self-assurance, I watched in amazement as she set off across the ring as bold as brass, totally unfazed by everything that had given all the others something to think about. She moved out freely, making good use of her chunky rear end. BPB but she just lost out to the more mature dog puppy from the same kennel for BPIS.

2nd Ritchie's Kittlegairy Still Game 8 months old Racier in build and higher on leg than one at the moment, she too has a feminine head with a lot to like about it at this stage, muzzle and back skull are balanced, back skull is slightly rounded, she has depth and squareness to the flew, ears that are rounded and feathered in appearance, and are correctly set in line with eyes. Good length of neck, leading into a sloping shoulder, enough depth of chest, she too has strength in her topline, a well rounded backend with plenty of muscular development in her thigh. It was a real shame that she was clearly unhappy today, and all though her handler did her best to get her settled, her erratic movement meant she was hard to assess.

Puppy Bitch (2,1)

1st Harris' Melverly Betsy Trotwood With Coastalgloves L/W Her full liver jacket can throw the eye somewhat and you really need to put your hands on this youngster to appreciate what she has. At the top end of puppy classes, she is racy in build with a good height to her leg, she has a frame that she now needs to fill out in. Head was just a tad unbalanced, but will correct itself with age, and although her eyes are medium, almond shaped they are still needing to darken a touch, she has a good earset and a kind expression. Enough length of neck with good shoulder angulation, tight elbows with straight front legs, although her liver jacket would suggest otherwise her height to length is balanced. A slight rise over the loin, leads to a low set tail, with moderation throughout her rear angulation. Movement is steady but true enough coming and going, a lot to like about her, but for me I just wish she had a bit more springer enthusiasm about her.

Junior Bitch (1,0)

1st Harris' Melverly Amy Dorrit With Coastalgloves B/W Litter sister to puppy bitch winner and although a different type completely, some attributes and comments still apply. Not the raciness of her sister, she is strong and compact, and lower on leg. Her head is still in it's development stage and just needs to balance up, being black and white her eye is darker, flat cheeks and a good depth to flew, ears are set on well and she has that kind, alert spaniel expression. Arched neck of adequate length to it, with good shoulder construction. Firm in topline and loin with a good width to the thigh, she just needs to mature more in the rear to balance her up again and complete the symmetrical appearance. Round compact feet finish off her strong limbs. Considered for BPB but just lost out to the younger

puppy's panache.

Special Yearling Bitch (5,0)

1st Savell's Petranella Tipping The Wink JW Been watching this one since she was a cracking puppy. Now 19 months old she is still far from the finished article, but she is getting there. For me she excels in front angulation and movement. Head is feminine, with enough chiselling and fluting, eyes are dark enough and like all youngsters head needs to balance up slightly. Arched, strong neck of adequate length. She needs to drop still in forechest and chest, but has good ribbing, strong in back, short coupled and with a really well muscled thigh, hocks are low to ground and she uses them to such good effect. Moved out steadily by her handler, footfall was straight and accurate and enough reach. Her movement gave her the edge in this, the largest class of the day.

2nd Rose's Pinereoch Amethyst of Rosannoch Another smart youngster from the same litter as the graduate and special yearling dog. She is more akin to the graduate brother, with a head, neck and front that appeals greatly. Eye and nose pigment still needing to darken, but she also has that soft melting springer expression. Moderate feathering to a well set ear. Well rounded and deep in girth which follows through to a strong rear end. Front legs are straight, hindlegs are moderate in angulation, with a really good width of thigh. Handler kept her steady on the move, and she was accurate out and back.

3rd Joyce's Peasblossom Aura at Felltops 19 months old

Limit Bitch (3,2)

1st Corbet's Trimere Turn Back Time Racy in build and high enough on the leg, she stands over a bit of ground. Her head has balanced proportions, her eye is probably dark enough for a liver and white with tan markings and of correct shape. Foreface is fairly broad, with flat cheeks and square in flew. Her neck is strong and muscular and has adequate length. A strong level topline which she holds on the move. Her front construction is good with depth and width to her forechest, her rear end is moderate but stills need to mature for her rear end to catch up with her front end. She has a free easy stride on her, but not as positive today as I have seen in the past.

Open Bitch (5,2) Penultimate class of the day, and what a class to nearly finish an enjoyable day on. Spoilt for choice with these three entries, the first and second I have watched from their earlier days, the third was relatively new to me. A real nit picker of a decision, and once again it was probably the flooring that had the final say, as I felt my winner managed to move with better drive and extension. 1st Corbett's Sh Ch Trimere Time Fly's She caught the eye as an attractive youngster, who was full of promise. Time has marched on, allowing her to fulfil that promise, now as a young adult she has developed and matured into a bitch that fills the eye. Beautifully put together she appeals for quality, type and movement. Standing still she presents a well balanced picture with symmetry and raciness. Feminine in head, she has flat cheeks, with square muzzle, fluting between her expressive dark eyes, rises to a brow and slightly rounded skull. Ears with moderate feathering are set well to the head. She then flows from her arched neck, into a strong topline, slight rise to the loin and low set tail. She possesses a well laid shoulder and good return of upper arm, elbows are set well to a deep chest with well sprung ribbing. Moderate in rear with well let down hindlegs. Tight compact feet. Expertly shown by her superb handler who absolutely got the best out of her today. Merry and happy on the move, active, free and easy, using her tail to good advantage. In lovely condition, I have put her on my Christmas Wish List.

2nd Calvert's Sh Ch Calvdale Flutter JW From a different mould to the winner, but still so much to admire about her as well, she just oozes quality and has breed type stamped all over her, from the tip of her well developed nostrils, through her tapered, slightly arched neck, and well laid sloping shoulder, correct moderate rear angulation, to the tip of her low set tail. Her head is balanced, with a depth of flew, a good earset, clean through the throat. Enough depth to her chest, she is close coupled with a real strength to her second thigh, clean tidy hocks and round, well padded feet complete the

picture. She is racy and so elegant. On the move she was straight and true coming and going, just looked after herself a bit today and didn't produce the reach and drive I know she has. RBB and I couldn't look anywhere else for RBIS.

3rd Wilson & Connor's Potrail Turns the Swag On for Pinereoch

Special Beginners Bitch (1,0)

1st: Harris' Meverly Amy Dorrit With Coastalglows See Junior Bitch