MIDLAND & N COS FRENCH BULLDOG CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW, 28/09/14

Midland & Northern Counties French Bulldog Club held a ch show where BIS & BP, winning a first CC, was the bitch Aprika Miss World. She took my eye when she came into the ring, gleaming with condition, a lovely shape & on inspection full of breed type from nose to tail. On the move she was immaculate & full of attitude. I had little hesitation, even in a wonderful bitch line up, of giving her the top award & hope that others will follow. From the owner’s first litter I see also that her litter sister was placed in the very strong JB class, congratulations; RBIS was the RCC winning bitch Ch Oro Jumaroro Action Alet Anashell who had topped the wonderful OB class. She filled the eye for type & soundness & holds her correct shape on the move. She has a bit of Frenchie stubbornness at times & the puppy just sparkled in the challenge, but what a beautiful Frenchie she is; DCC went to another puppy, Tulskaya Akvarel Darian De Trevil Bellicose, he is much more compact than his name! Beautiful type, his head, dark eyes & excellent ears are memorable, he is a lovely shape & an excellent mover on lovely legs & feet. Topline & underline are excellent & he is immaculate on the move. Another in perfect condition; & BV, the fawn dog, Ch Birique Zentique, a good advert for the breed in soundness & type. His owner told me afterwards that he won two classes under me as a Junior, & he is very worthy of the affix he carries.

Thank you for a wonderful entry of 191 exhibits & even with about 30 absentees it was still a day of big classes & tough competition, especially in bitches where the Puppy, Junior, Limit & Open classes were full of lovely quality bitches. The same can be said particularly of the LD class. It is good to see that there are many sound, active movers in the breed. I had only one case of noisy breathing & a great majority of large nostrils. However, the absence of tails & extremely short tails was a worry & I hope breeders & judges will address this in their breeding & selection programmes.

I found a few toplines which were a little exaggerated in roach for my interpretation & a few hindquarters with very straight stifles & unstable hocks.

I was personally delighted when the breed came off the High Profile Breeds category but I hope the excellent work of the breeders & the clubs will continue & reduce further the health concerns for the breed. They are undoubtedly a wonderful breed & their temperaments, as always, were a delight.

Many thanks to my stewards Steven Webb & Kelly Smith who worked hard & to the club for its hospitality & lovely memento of the occasion.

Finally I appreciated the sportsmanship shown by exhibitors – especially in those hotly contested classes, & by spectators in the generous applause for all class winners.

MPD 1 Tulskaya Akvarel Darian De Trevil Bellicose, 8 months brindle, stood out here for balance & movement. Excellent head, eye & ears, well let down in rear. Smooth sound movement, in wonderful condition, excellent legs & feet where he scored in the challenge with the sparkle of youth. CC; 2 King Arthur Decani Palma at Sandylake, 7 months, shapely body with very good quarters. Just a little heavier all through than 1 & I would like him a little drier in head but has a lot of type; 3 Hardrock Amima Mea at Katakia.

PD 1 Vaghnas Brigadier at Tytorro, 9 months brindle, lovely size, correct topline & an excellent tail lacking in some. Very good head, eye & ears. Can tighten a little in front action. Very good rear; 2 Norcairn Fabulous Frank, 10 months fawn pied, ultra sound on the move with very good quarters. Excellent head, eye & ears. Just a little bigger than 1 who had a little more shape to topline.

JD Two lovely dogs at the top. 1 Rycolah Hemlock, 14 months, lovely fawn of excellent size & with a beautiful head & ultra sound. Has good front feet & correct topline with low tail. I liked him enormously. Just looking a little long at the moment but maturity will help here; 2 Cargray Here Comes The Sun, 13 months, beautiful shapely brindle with excellent head, very good body shape & also lovely bone & feet. Like 1 he is ultra sound. I just preferred the size of 1 but I think he will have a very good future; 3 Eastonite Abraham for Bourgeoisie.

YD Disappointing class. 1 Rischae Edward Bear avec Labanjo, 23 months fawn, best body shape in the class. Good skull, eye & ears. Needs a little more stop. Front action disappointing; 2 Redblooded Lord Byron with Delightbull, 18 months fawn, a little plain in head & needs to body up. Front & feet need to improve; 3 Essencera Cloud King of Mitchtons.

ND 1 Avigdors Vettore Di Vottoria of Dersieger, 6 months brindle, a little slack in topline but sound on the move. Has good skull, eye & ears. A little heavy in lip. Scored in movement & tail; 2 Celticbrid Braveheart, 10 months, reserve in the Puppy class. He appeals very much in body shape & was in lovely condition. Needs more foreface & front action disappoints.

GD 1 Shoebridge Bergerac, 16 months fawn, easy winner of this class. Lovely size, excellent quarters & movement. Needs a little more finish of lip but good skull, eyes, ears & tail; 2 Pringham Promises to Ellsberry, 20 months fawn, good bodied dog but needs a little more rear angulation. Good skull, ears a little wide set & his eyes are too prominent. Good chest & front action; 3 Patchdown Pilot.

PGD 1 Withheld. MLD 1 Risethor Sweeney Todd, 2 years, not yet fully mature in body but I liked his size, head qualities & excellent movement. Good quarters & tail; 2 Eastonite Rockafella of Katakia, 2 years, slightly bigger pied who is very sound. Not quite in his best coat. Tail a little high set. Clean masculine head, good chest & quarters; 3 Tommyville Twill Will.

LD Three top quality dogs at the top. 1 Norcairn Dark ‘N’ Debonair at Tytorro, 23 months, lovely size, shape & movement. Very good head & eye. His ears could be a little bigger. Scored in eye & topline to win in a close decision; 2 Chelmbull Moon Pilot, 2 years, beautiful size & body, lovely front & chest, excellent rear. Very good head & ear. I would prefer his eyes just a shade darker. I liked him immensely as I did also 3 Rischale William.

OD 1 Ch Renuar New War Bonnet Glenlee, almost 3 years brindle, lovely size & type & the best mover in this class. Very good body shape & tail, good head qualities. RCC; 2 Am Ch Kingfriend Mr Chow, 13 months, lovely sized brindle. Good headpiece. Could have a little more fallaway to croup. Lovely legs & feet. Needs to tighten in his front action; 3 Sibovelds Sandro Hit.

VD 1 Ch Birique Zentique, 8 years fawn, in firm condition & sound. Good head & eye, good tail. Retains his qualities. BV; 2 Avigdors Sirocco, 8 years brindle, a little heavy on the day & not as fluent in movement as 1.

Pied D 1 Witherford Austin, 14 months, lovely size, ultra sound & with very good head. Scored in hindquarters & tail. Needs time for body maturity; 2 Frustyle Trend In Style for Chinasky, 2 years, lovely body shape which he holds on the move. Good head type. Needs a little more rear angulation which shows in his hind action; 3 Hadrurus Arizonenis.

Fawn D 1 Glenlee War Cloud, 2 years, excellent size with good head & dark eye. Moves well. Scored in hindquarters; 2 Jafrak Friendly Persuasion, 2 years, lovely headed dog with excellent body shape, lovely legs, feet & pigmentation. Needs a little more let down in quarters. Shown in immaculate condition; 3 Jafrak Persuade Me.

Brindle D 1 Risethor Tiger Tiger with Archness, 5 years, small compact brindle who has very good topline, tail & excellent rear movement. He needs a little more leg for balance & could be tidier in front action; 2 C D Victorious for C, 9 months with lovely head, eye & ears. At the moment looking long & slack in topline but has promise. Sound in front.

MPB 1 Norcairn Shear Delight, 8 months fawn, lovely body shape & movement, good skull. I would like her with drier head but scored in hindquarters to win this class. Full of type & a great showgirl; 2 Norcairn Dark ‘N’ Dazzling at Bankholt, 8 months brindle. I preferred her head & expression to 1. She has lovely body & ribs, just needs a little more let down in rear; 3 Dee Delicious for Seraphel.

PB Very good class. 1 Vaghnas Andorra, 9½ months, beautiful puppy standing & moving. Lovely body shape, excellent head & full of type all through. Should have a good future; 2 Vaghnas Athena, litter sister, very similar & also an excellent mover. Very good headpiece. Her sister is a little firmer in pastern & has more tail; 3 Kingrock Maple Syrup with Theapaul.

JB Wonderful class for quality. 1 Chelmbull Rumour Hits It, 13 months, beautiful bitch, feminine but with substance & great style on the move. Full of breed type. Not fully finished in chest but for her age just lovely. Made the last 3 in the challenge; 2 Monica Belluci Masuria Miracle Bellicose, beautiful bitch & excellent movement with very good chest. I thought 1 just a little more feminine but another of the highest quality; 3 Kingfriend Miss Fancy with Archness.

YB 1 M Belluci Masuria Miracle Bellicose; 2 Dersiegers Blonde Ambition, 18 months, very typy fawn bitch, compact, well boned with excellent body & a good mover; 3 Kaybull Monique Le Beau Babe.

GB 1 Rowendale Cupcake Oakprides, 2 years old fawn, typical all through with a very good tail. Good head type, sound moving; 2 Stonepit Domino, 2 years pied, shown in lovely condition but she is too heavily marked for my interpretation & needs a little more strength in muzzle.

PGB 1 Rischale Ophelia, 23 months fawn, very sound & the best mover in this class. Lovely bone & feet, good body, quality head & good eye; 2 Heidsick Lily Blossom, very shapely bitch I liked a lot for type. Was erratic on the move at first but settled to move evenly. Excellent head. Would like stronger pasterns & feet; 3 Eastonite Run Lola Run at Catrelma.

MLB 1 Aprika Miss World, almost 12 months, beautiful bitch, stood out here. Lovely size, shape & beautiful head & eye. Excellent ears. Filled my eye & didn’t put a foot wrong. CC & BIS; 2 Tommyville Topping at Greusaiche, 8 years brindle, wonderfully sound & firm & well deserving this place; 3 Shoebridge Lunel.

LB Excellent class, 7 lovely bitches in the last cut. 1 Norcairns Dark Desire at Barmark, 2 years, lovely bitch, compact & with excellent topline. Very free mover. Full of type without exaggeration. Very good mover; 2 Norcairn Dark Encounter, 2 years, very similar & an excellent mover. Just preferred foreface of 1. Very close up; 3 Audacious Indelible Black at Luapkram.

OB Another wonderful class of quality bitches. 1 Ch Oro Jumaroro Action Alet Anashell, almost 3, beautiful type & quality. Has substance combined with femininity. Beautiful head & eye, correct top & underline, very sound. I thought her lovely. MLB just sparkled a bit more in the challenge. RCC & RBIS; 2 Ch Tillcar Flirt In A Skirt, 2 years, compact & an excellent mover. Lovely skull & ears. Very feminine. I just preferred the finish of foreface & bone of 1 but she was so close up. Top quality & shown in great form; 3 Pringham Privillege.

VB 1 T Topping at Greusaiche, had held her own in MLB & a very worthy winner here.

Pied B 1 Skybull Marie Antoinette, substantial, sound bitch of good type. Could carry less weight to enhance body shape.

Fawn B 1 Glenlee Eternal Flame Luvum, very typy with good body shape, excellent bone & feet, quality head, eye & ear; 2 Tommyville Tartan Ribbon at Greusaiche, small, compact bitch of good type.

Brindle B 1 A Indelible Black at Luapkram, third in the strong LB class. I liked her type & soundness. Beautiful head & eye; 2 Jap Ch Kokette De La Parore, shortlisted in the Open class, lovely size & quality. 3 years old, very good movement. Just a little soft in topline on the day; 3 Xentique Burlesque.

FRANK KANE