

SOUTH WEST WHIPPET CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW – 19th FEBRUARY 2023

This was a lovely entry which I enjoyed immensely – many thanks for your entries. Such was the quality I was able to judge to the type I prefer and could gladly have awarded top honours to many exhibits. They say that judging good dogs is easy and this was a perfect example – I felt that the placings just sorted themselves out! To make the cut was no mean feat and many worthy examples were unplaced on the day, especially in the higher classes. Perhaps unsurprisingly my final line-up consisted almost entirely of fawns which wasn't something I set out to do intentionally, however I do feel that colour and type go hand in hand to a large extent. I was able to easily find what I was looking for in all classes and that meant that many placings were decided by only the narrowest of margins. I place great emphasis on front construction and profile movement and my placings were largely made having these considerations in mind. This all makes for a “*rinse and repeat*” type critique where I've found it impossible to avoid repetition – apologies! I genuinely love this breed and it gave me so much pleasure to find such quality in depth. At the end of the day the Dogs took the ultimate awards on the referee's decision – well done to each of them, they are great ambassadors for the breed! Lastly, thank you to SWWC for a thoroughly enjoyable day and to my capable stewards who kept the ring running efficiently throughout.

VB (18/2) A nice class to start the day. 1 – Brown's Ardencote Star Maker, 8 year old, well balanced and nicely boned fawn of correct size. I liked her depth of brisket and lovely sweeping underline, she has a workmanlike strength about her without any loss of quality. Sound on the move with a long, low front action and good rear drive. BVIS. 2 – Boughton-White's Ipanema Girl On Fire, Another fawn who is slightly more elegant in type, very feminine and curvaceous. Good reach of neck and layback of shoulder, typical in topline with a firm, smooth loin. Moved out well today. 3 – Woodward's Palmik Kandalama Dusk Til Dawn JW ShCex

MPB (5,1) 1 – Barnes' Doddridge Strictly Cha Cha, I fell for this 6 month brindle who was full of attitude. She captivated me today with her flowing lines and steady movement for one so young. Full of confidence and inquisitiveness, she's a real little showgirl who should have a bright future. Nice size and balanced in outline. Clean through the neck and shoulder with a good depth of chest and nicely angulated quarters. Her attributes and attitude meant I was unable to overlook her today. BPB. 2 – Rodgers' Wentvalley Divine Diva, Another smart 8 month brindle of similar type although with slightly more scope, full of quality and very close up to class winner, similar comments apply but I just thought 1st was that little more collected in front movement today. 2 very nice puppies! 3 – Richard's Richclass Miss Atomic Bomb.

PB (10/1) Fryer's Crosscop Tickled Pink At Stonefox, A quality 10 month fawn of a lovely type. Flowing in outline and very steady on the move with good reach and drive. Smooth through her neck and shoulders with nicely bladed bone and just enough spring in pastern. Well-muscled back and loin with moderate angulation behind. Strode out very well and held her outline in profile. 2 – Howgate & Hull's Palmik Truth About Love, slightly more scopey in type, good reach of neck and correct front construction. A little unsettled on the move in this class I felt, although she put in a better performance during her later class. Just preferred the general togetherness of first placed today. 3 – Morland's Zoraden You Are My Universe.

JB (9/2) 1 – Whitehead, Smith & Mixides' Citycroft Seattle, I really liked this one! She appealed as soon as she entered the ring and didn't disappoint on closer inspection. Well boned and bodied for her age, with a look of real strength to her without any loss of quality or elegance. Stands naturally over the ground with a firm topline, optimal rear angulation and good width to her thigh. Well-constructed forehead with a good front extension on the move. Close up to RCC winner today. I'll be interested to see how she progresses. 2 – Tristram's Pagarni's Princess Elsa – Similar type fawn with a

look of real refinement about her, good neck and shoulder and depth of brisket, typical top and underlines and good bend of stifle, will benefit from more maturity I feel, nice and steady on the move. 3 – Perkins' Kierpark Just A Song At Zeglynn.

YB (15/0) This was a very strong class! The first three were of slightly differing type but each had many qualities I admired. 1 – Howgate & Hull's Palmik Chasing Rainbows, A top quality bitch presented in first class bloom and condition. Strong and robust but without any hint of coarseness, for me she represented an almost perfect blend of power with elegance. Muscular neck into well laid shoulders with a good return of upper arm and depth of brisket. She stands with ease over plenty of ground and really comes alive on the move, where she just glides effortlessly in profile whilst also true out and back. I knew as soon as I went over her that she would be a strong contender for top honours today and was delighted to award her the CC in such strong competition. On this form her title surely can't be too far away 2. Tyson's Starceylon She's A Mover – black who is slightly more classic in type. Correct size and full of quality, she flows from head to toe. Good depth of brisket, typical in top/underline and well let down hocks. Scores very highly in movement and holds her shape well in profile. Just preferred the front extension of first placed today. Shown in tip top condition and expertly handled to get the very best from her. 3 – Short's Collooney Tommy Girl.

NB (19/2) 1 - Howgate & Hull's Palmik Truth About Love. 2 – Dietz's Ringmore Iris, f/w parti with a calm, gentle demeanour. A very classic type with a thoroughbred look about her. Moderate and well balanced throughout, where no one quality overshadows another. Well put together construction wise with a pleasing topline and good depth of chest. I'm told today was the first show for both dog & owner – well done on such a composed performance. 3 – Bunney's Bunehug So Be It.

SBB (18/4) 1 - Longhurst's Abbeyhurst Dancing Queen, blue fawn who is full of quality, up to size but with lovely sweeping lines. Good reach of neck onto correctly placed shoulders, straight front and good spring of pastern. Good depth of brisket and typical underline, with a smooth, well-muscled topline and well let down in hock. Another who should have a bright future. 2 – Trouton's Citycroft Grace Kelly Of Runnel JW, slightly different type but a lovely quality bitch nonetheless, flowing lines and stands over slightly more ground than 1st placed. Her overall construction is difficult to fault, but I just preferred the type of 1st placed. 3 - Tristram's Pagarni's Princess Elsa.

GB (16/1) 1 – Howgate & Hull's Palmik A Million Dreams, Another quality exhibit from this kennel, she scores in overall balance and stands naturally over plenty of ground, another with correct front construction, good spring of pastern and depth of brisket. Well-muscled through the loin and quarters with a good width to her thigh finished off with neat, low hocks. 2 - Longhurst's Abbeyhurst Dancing Queen. 3 – Owen's Mollytop Fancy Lady

PGB (18/1) 1 – Fryer's Osterfan Lakota At Stonefox, Very feminine and of a lovely elegant type, well-constructed especially in front with a good reach of neck. Curvaceous outline and moved well with a lovely fluency to her movement, I feel she will benefit from more maturity and is not quite yet at her best. 2 – Bridge's Chesilven Creme De Monte, similar type of fawn, well-constructed overall, moved a little close behind today, decent profile movement but couldn't help feeling she would benefit from a little more oomph. 3 – Reese's Pteridium Bracken.

LB (21/5) This was another fantastic class. I was nit-picking to separate the first three. 1 – Mycroft, Morris & Waddell's Crosscop Candle In The Wind To Supeta, This one took a while to settle but once relaxed had a lovely flowing outline that I found irresistible today. Shown in first class bloom and condition. Moderate, well balanced and full of quality, she scores highly in forehead and pastern and has optimal angulation behind. She excels in topline and underline which combine to give her that "*grace of outline*" that is unique to the Whippet. Precise and sound on the move with a typical easy

stride. A very worthy RCC winner today. 2 Smith & Coulter's Collooney At Last, beautiful quality black, shown in gleaming condition, I liked her overall quality, smooth outline and front construction, good reach of neck into smooth shoulders and good spring of pastern. She strode out very well today with good reach and drive whilst holding her topline. Just preference the general outline and rear angulation of first placed today. 3 – Wilkinson's Citycroft Starfall JW.

OB (12/1) Yet another very nice class. 1 – Lain's Ch. Lolani Tennessee Honey, A moderate and classic type without any form of exaggeration. A very sound, honest bitch who scores highly in many ways. Muscular neck set onto well laid shoulders with a good return of upperarm and well tucked in at the elbow. A good depth of brisket, with a shapely, well-muscled topline and good tuck up. She wasn't my instant class winner but seemed to get better and more composed as the class progressed. Sound and precise on the move and strides out with good reach and drive in profile. 2 – Lawley's Crosscop It's Magic For Lawleymoon, Similar in type to first placed, so similar comments apply. Very well constructed and presents a classic feminine outline. I really was torn between these two but on the final go around I just preferred the front extension of 1st placed. 3 – Morris, Waddell, Mycroft & Mitchell's Crosscop Just What I Need.

Spec. Racing/Coursing B (5/1) Webber's Zoraden Fifty Shades Darker JW, black shown in tip top condition. Nicely balanced with a look of real quality about her. Good forechest and infill giving plenty of heart/lung room. Correctly constructed and moved out soundly today. 2 – Leathart's Ringmore Hecate, classic in type and moderate throughout, she has a workmanlike quality to her and one which I can picture doing a job of work. Just preferred the front movement of 1st placed today. 3 – Ryan's Twiggen New Leaf Of Moonlake.

Paul Glaholm