

South West Whippet Club Championship Show 16th February 2025 -Bitch Critique

A lovely entry awaited me at this most friendly of Breed Clubs. Thank you to my three stewards who were all extremely helpful and kept things running smoothly over the day. An interesting entry with regards to quality and just a few general things spring to mind. There was a worrying number of less than perfect, "frilly" mouths. I was a little disappointed to see so many long, tubular type Whippets in the early classes, most with good fronts and rears, separated with overlong flat backs, with non existent top lines or underlines. My usual moans -first the excessive baiting of exhibits, leaning over to grab bait, top lines and fronts all over the place as they do so on the floor and on the table, having difficulty getting one's hands on the dog's head before the next mouthful! The second the speed at which some bitches were moved, way out of their natural cadence and with the resulting poor tail carriage as the dog uses its tail to steady itself. There are fewer and fewer exhibits moving with that desired, clearly described action found in the Breed Standard. TRAD, tremendous reach and drive, is not what is required, with overreach occurring, neither is the mincing step so linked with poor front construction. The old term "daisy cutting" describes it best with a long easy stride with the dog in balance. Apart from those asides, I was very pleased with the final line up and thrilled with all my principle winners, with the extra accolade that my BCC went onto BIS, my Best Puppy Bitch went BPIS, my Veteran Bitch went BVIS and the winner of the bitch BR/LC went onto BR/LCIS. Congratulations to all the winners of both sexes, some lovely dogs and tough decisions. A most enjoyable day spent judging, with such great hospitality shown by the committee.

Veteran Bitch 11(3) A super class of Veterans, of different breed types and sizes, some looking very young for their years. My first three were all beautiful and a credit to their owners for keeping them in such good order.

1. Stephens- Dolce Diva Divine N Delary at Jasteal. Have always admired this mature brindle bitch. Spot on for size and feminine. Lovely head and neck. Balanced and so pleasingly constructed. Deep brisket with well sprung ribs. Good top line which she held on the move. Well knuckled feet and decent bone. Moved out correctly. BVB and later BVIS
2. Hooper- Tobers Rare Magic. Another bitch that has caught my eye when in the ring. Of different breed type and a little taller. Brindle parti, attractive head. Would prefer just a little more definition of stop. Long neck into clean shoulders. Curvy underline and and pleasing arch over loin. Standing on excellent feet. Easy mover, holding her top line and maintaining her shape.
3. Richards- Healion- Clynecourt Colour Me Cool

MPB 11 A class of some exciting puppies to watch in the future as they develop. Certainly a mixture of breed types.

1. Yacoby Wright-Zobyco Cobyco Paranoia Imp Pol. Brindle at just 6 months old. Ticked all my boxes immediately. Delightful size and totally balanced from nose to tail. A true Minor Puppy, with the bonus of exuding both confidence and composure. Attractive feminine head, neat rose ears. Elegant neck. Super front and rear quarters. Good for bone, standing on well knuckled feet. Curvy underline and correct in top line. Moved out with enthusiasm, with perfect tail carriage. BPB and delighted to see her take BPIS.
2. Morris, Waddel, Spademan and Mycroft- Crosscop Temptation to Supeta. Light brindle also 6 months. Longer cast than 1 and larger throughput. Again a very confident puppy. Attractive head piece, long and lean in skull. Good length of neck, running into clean shoulders. Standing on well knuckled feet. Would prefer more spring to pasterns. Curvy underline. Fine coat. Carrying just the right amount of condition. Moved out well.
3. Howgate and Hull- Tervanty Dragon Song at Palmik

PB 4 A class of varying breed types and general quality. Possibly more ring training would not go amiss.

1. Durante- Duranridge Chic Shadow. Black brindle of 9 months old. A little plain in head, a fraction long in foreface, but lean and flat skulled. Elegant neck and good front assembly. Lovely shape in profile, most curvaceous with correct top line. At the top end for size but feminine throughout and elegant. Would like more infill of chest. Good for bone and neat feet, well arched with sufficient spring of pasterns. Initially a little erratic on the move but clean and accurate when more settled. Took the class with ease.
2. Gallie- Silkridge Gold Fever via Erbys. Mature 11 months old, golden fawn with white trim. More substantial throughout. Correct head ratios. Decent neck length. Lovely fine coat. A little

upright in pastern .Good spring of rib and length of loin. Flat in top line and a little more depth of brisket required. Could be moved a fraction faster as she tended to double track at times.

3. Evans- Lassi Florence

JB 9(2) Again another class of mixed breed types.

1. Wood- Ardencote Justa Dream. Golden fawn of lovely size and overall shape. Her head is not her fortune, a fraction broad, lacking a degree of femininity. Ears a little low set. However, that aside she is a well constructed bitch, with no exaggerations. Good front and infill. Decent bone and tight feet, well knuckled. Possibly a little more spring to pasterns. Excellent musculature- although I would not want to see any more, with fine skin and coat. Deep brisket and well defined loin. Neat hind quarters, well muscled. Moved out soundly and with propulsion.
2. Partridge- Ohoka Top Tuppence. Fawn bitch. Very pleasing head with neat ears and long elegant neck. A little upright in shoulder. Would prefer more spring to pasterns. Well ribbed and good length of loin.Curvy underline. Decent feet and tidy nails. Perfect tail carriage and moved soundly.
3. Morris, Waddell and Spademan-Crosscop Tiny Dancer

YB 8. An interesting class of lovely Whippets, all showcasing some really pleasing aspects of the breed type spectrum!

1. Morland- Zoraden Gossip Girl JW. Very exciting young brindle with white trim. Really does have all the attributes that one wants in a top quality bitch. Perfect for size and balanced throughout. Attractive feminine head, all head ratios met. Long elegant neck. Perfect front assembly and corresponding hind quarters, no exaggerations at all. Sweeping, curvy underline, well ribbed and well sprung. Top line held on the move and she moved out with the correct daisy cutting action, tail perfectly held. BCC and BIS on the Referee's decision.
2. Brodie and Owen- Wolfcastle Be Juled. Striking black brindle white trim bitch of completely different breed type. More substantial throughout. Lovely head and ear set. Long elegant neck. Good front construction and well angulated rear. Excellent infill of chest. Well ribbed and good length of loin. Certainly eye catching and much to like about her. Moved out soundly and accurately. Called back in to be considered for the RBCC.
3. Hambling- Chaseover Bellini

NB 19(2) A well filled class. My first two could so easily change places, just a question of splitting hairs on the day.

1. Graham-Keep A Knocking of Ohoko. Golden fawn, white trim. Very pleasing mature bitch. Good clean skull with correct ear set. Long neck and well placed shoulders. Deep brisket and curvy underline. Ribs carried well back and good length of loin.Good hind quarters with hocks well let down.Certainly balanced. Moved soundly.
2. Leathart- Ringmore Jocasta. Dusky fawn, blue mask. What a lovely Whippet. Had one of the best heads of the day.Totally classic, excelling in the required ratios, neat ear set and perfect eyes. Super front and rear assembly. Curvy underline and correct top line held on the move. Correct feet, well knuckled and pasterns spot on. Fine coat and firm muscles. Sound on the move.
3. Partridge- Ohoko Top Tuppence

Special Beginners Bitch 14(2)

1. Graham -Keep A Knocking of Ohoko
2. Sharp- Chippwhipp Let The Sunshine. Mature brindle. Lovely overall shape. Attractive head with super pigmentation. Long neck into well laid shoulders. Deep brisket and correct infill of chest. Curvy underline and pleasing rise over loin. Well constructed fore and aft with no exaggeration. Moved out correctly. Would just like her to have a dash more joie de vivre.
3. Partridge- Ohoko To Tuppence

GB 12(1)

1. Middleton and Gilhooly- Stormida Squirrels for Tea. Red brindle parti. Very feminine throughout. Lovely head with neat ears and well shaped eyes. Elegant neck and good layback of shoulders. Depth of chest and length of loin as required. Good spring of ribs. Decent for bone and pleasing spring of pastern. Tail carried correctly on the move. Another that I would just like a little more animated to just lift her game, in order to really showcase her many attributes.
2. Cooper- Crosscop Im Always Yours at Ballauren JW. I really liked this ultra feminine bitch, fawn with white trim. Beautiful head, darkest of eyes and neat rose ears. Excellent front, pasterns spot on. Everything balanced and in harmony. Very well constructed in a neat

package. No exaggerations. Well let down hocks and tidy feet. Moved out at just the right pace for her size. Handled to maximise her strengths.

3. Hoskins- Shelsue Jingling Jennie

PGB 14(1) A great class. My second and third placed exhibits could easily change places on another occasion.

1. Courtney and Wallace - Loroili Stoned In Love with Courtbirch. Brindle bitch with white trim. Certainly an eye catcher. Up to size but still feminine. Lovely in profile with classic sweeping curves. Good depth of brisket, ribs carried well back and gentle rise over the loin. Good neat feet all round. Tail set spot on and carried well. Shown in excellent condition and great musculature. A cracking bitch, certainly laid back and at ease, but would love to see her showcase her attributes with more enthusiasm. RBCC
2. Turner- Gilnockie Kind Cool. Another eye catching brindle. Up to size but maintaining femininity. Attractive head, a fraction long in foreface. Elegantly arched neck. Good deep brisket, a little upright in shoulder, tending to lean into her forehead on the stand. Curvy underline and sweeping hind quarters. On the move she tended to rush. I would like to see her less tense. Once more relaxed in her surroundings, I am sure she will be able to give a more polished performance in the ring.
3. Green and Ratcliffe- Crosscop Take Me on Arroddare

LB 15(5) A very pleasing class of mature exhibits.

1. Longhurst- Abbeyhurst Dancing Queen. This dusky fawn is maturing like a good wine! A really lovely example of the breed. Exudes femininity throughout. Stunning head with classic ear set. Most elegant of necks and front and rear quarters are well constructed, reflected in her easy moving, effortless stride when on the move. Balanced from nose to tail tip. Curves in all the right places. Beautifully handled to really showcase her strengths, the temptation to move her too fast must be resisted. Considered for the RBCC.
2. Tristram- Pargani Princess Elsa. Fawn. Very attractive, another feminine and well constructed exhibit. Spot on for size. Lovely head, rose ears and elegant neck. Front angulation complimented by equally correct rear quarters. Underline curvy with gentle rise over loins. A very balanced bitch. Sound and active on the move.
3. Jones - Jothryn Manhatten Blonde JW

OB 4(1)

1. Green and Ratcliffe- Ch Crosscop Bumble Bee by Arroddare. A beautiful example of the breed and much has been written of her attributes. Golden fawn with white trim. Very attractive head, well set ears and long neck running into well laid shoulders. Front assembly spot on, fractionally long in pasterns. Gentle curvy underline complimented by the graceful arch of the top line. Stands over ground with ease. Held her profile effortlessly. Moves soundly and handled professionally. A very worthy Champion in so many aspects.
2. Howgate and Hull - Palmik Truth About Love JW. Fawn of smaller cast, feminine throughout. Very attractive head, Ears set well. Good neck and clean shoulders. Front and rear quarters well made, with no exaggeration. Decent for bone and neat well knuckled feet. Not the top line of 1. Moved out at a perfect pace for her size. Well handled and has a great rapport with her handler.
3. Hooper -Veredon Veuve Cliquot Avec Torbers

Special LC/RB 8(1) In this class one would expect to find all exhibits in excellent body shape and musculature. There is fine balance when expecting a dog to compete to balance body condition with energy expenditure, hence maintaining a well covered frame honed to the work undertaken. Even more so if it is also intended to participate in show classes. In one instance, this was not the case today.

1. Graham- Keep A Knocking of Ohoko BR/LCIS
2. Manley- Rose of Sunlight of Ivybright Well made brindle, in excellent condition. Attractive head, long neck and well laid shoulders. Standing on well knuckled feet and decent bone throughout. Well sprung ribs carried well back. Strong back, muscled without losing her top line. Pleasing in many aspects. Moved out soundly and handled sympathetically.
3. Miluk- Tumblers Araminta

Claire Rishworth -Bitches