

## FRENCH BULLDOG CLUB OF ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

13th APRIL 2014

It is a great honour to be invited to judge the parent club's championship show, I had declined previous invitations, but finally I was persuaded to accept this time and was pleased to be rewarded with a very large entry. I would like to thank everyone who entered their Frenchies under me and for accepting my judgement with such sporting behaviour and applause. I was most appreciative of my stewards, for their efficiency and for keeping me on track throughout the day.

Type and quality was rather varied as one has come to expect over the past few years and there is a need for improvement generally especially in type within the breed. Height to length ratio needs careful attention by breeders as it affects the desired overall balance required, many are getting too tall on the leg. Lack of substance and bone is also very evident. Remember Frenchies are a bull breed, and should not be drifting towards a terrier type. Breed type, correct outline and overall balance has always been any breeders greatest challenge since the evolution of the French Bulldog and will always remain so, but one must never lose sight of the perfection that we should be striving for as described in the Breed Standard, and one should not be taken in by clever marketing or flashing websites into believing otherwise.

Very few dogs had the required width and depth of muzzle and also many lacked fill under the eyes. I found mouth faults surprisingly in some overall very respectable dogs. Ear set was generally good, but quite a few dogs would have benefited from darker eyes and in the fawns, better eye rim and nose pigmentation. There seems to be an emergence of the 'smutty' fawn' this is not desirable in the breed, and hopefully with the rewording of the colour clause of the Breed Standard which is currently being reviewed by the Kennel Club, the correct colour descriptions will become more apparent and easier to interpret.

Some dogs who presented an agreeable picture standing, disappointed greatly on the move. Sadly it has become common place for breeders and judges to accept rear movement which is untypical of the breed as normal. For me this is a definite area of concern. My other area of concern was that tails were lacking in a number of exhibits and some tight tails were in evidence. This can be a health problem and breeders need to continue to address it. One day I hope to see all French Bulldogs with a small neat tail as described in the Breed Standard. Only one Frenchie showed mild signs of a respiratory problem, a great improvement in the show ring from 20 years ago. I found a number of exhibits with dirty facial wrinkles, dirty ears and long toe nails, this is unacceptable as it should form part of your daily care routine for all of your dogs.

Temperaments were splendid throughout all the entry with only a couple of youngsters a little over awed by the occasion, a little encouragement and ringcraft training will help them overcome this. Sadly some exhibits were in my opinion too well schooled and had lost that essential Frenchie essence and sparkle, they are meant to be 'clown like' not cardboard cut outs.

I particularly liked the Minor Puppy Bitch class (15 entries) and wished I had more place cards to award. I was also delighted to see a few overseas exhibitors venturing into the UK show scene. At the end of the day, I was extremely pleased with my winners, they had quality, breed type, balance, soundness, ideal size and correct bone and substance.

I felt very honoured that the owner of my BOB had travelled so far to show under me, I first judged this dog as a junior in 2010 at the Spanish FB Club show in Jerez and awarded him Best Young Male. I am delighted that he has fulfilled his early promise, going on to win his International Champion title as well as winning BIS at the Club Du Bouledog Francais Ch show. I was thrilled to be able to award him the CC and BOB at our prestigious show

#### MPD 10 (3)

1. **Pearce's Hetana Gypsy King**. Dark brindle who stood out from the others in the class for his obvious quality, overall type and correct size for age.. Classic head shape and profile. Ears of correct shape and size set and carried well. Dark eyes and good nose placement. Wide muzzle with the required cushioning and fill under the eyes. Very good dentition. Beautiful expression. Excellent straight front, shapely body. Very short coupled at this stage of development, but he should lengthen just a little as he grows on which will improve his overall balance. Correct bone and substance for age. Soundly constructed throughout, this showed in confident movement. If he matures well and fulfils his early promise he should have a bright future. I was very pleased to award him **BPD and BPIS**.

I learned later that he was a grandson of my BOB.

2. Pemberton & McNamara's Lynbank Tennessee Very much a baby, super expression and good brindled coat. Good spring of rib and very short coupled at this age. so the same comments apply as 1. Not as confident today on the table as some, but that will come. Moved soundly

3. Miller's Withford Austin. Clear pied slightly longer cast Typical expression, head developing along good lines. Liked his tail. Needs to settle in rear movement

#### PD 8 (3)

1. Wallace's Rycolah Hemlock. Promising well balanced black masked fawn of good colour. Very pleasing head. Excellent well placed ears carried upright and erect. Eye and nose placement very good. Open nostrils. Wide under jaw with good dentition. Super expression. Good length of neck and firm front. Gentle roach, good rib and cut up. Moved very well in front, rear movement needs to settle.

2. Mavro-Michaelsi- Shoebridge Provence. Very mature classic head with square skull and correct ear-set Good depth and width to the foreface. Excellent open nostrils. Well made throughout, good tail. Movement needs to settle.

3. Brown's Kuredeux Soul Rebel. Have the makings of a fabulous head and expression. Good overall body shape and tail. Soundly constructed. I will watch his development with interest. Lost out today he was not as mature as 1 & 2.

#### JD 8 (2)

1. Mavro-Michalis Shoebridge Bergerac. Soundly constructed black masked fawn. Correct for bone and substance, liked him for size and shape. Good head with pleasing expression, dark eyes and pigmentation. Ears set and used well, Short cobby body with gentle roach and cut up. Good tail. Excellent movement.

2. Ellis's Eastonite Jammy Dodger. Well made mature fawn. Liked his head and expression and open nostrils. Good overall body shape, very small tight tail present.

3. Jennings's Cossy's De La Phroiaig. Upstanding fawn with smutty coat, hopefully it will

clear a little as he matures on. Excellent pigmentation. Open nostrils. Pleasing head and body shape, tight tail present.

#### YD 1 (1)

#### PGD 8

1. Cassidy's Frustyle Trend In Style For Chinaskys, Impressive eye catching hooded pied, well marked, with clear fine coat. Up to size but not coarse in any way. Plenty of bone and substance. Masculine head with delightful soft expression. Strong well-arched neck, excellent straight front, good rib and cut up. I would prefer him a tad shorter in loin for absolute balance, but a well constructed dog of good breed type. Showed and handled well.

2. Ellis's Eastonite Boulton Paul. Fawn, balanced outline. Slightly prominent eyes which spoilt his expression and he needs more length of underjaw. Moved soundly

3. Mavro- Michaelis' Shoebridge Gaillac, Light brindle, well up to size. Masculine head with excellent well placed bat ears. Needs a little more turn and length of under jaw. Good dentition. Open nostrils. Straight front and cobby body with plenty of bone and substance. Good tail. Moved OK

#### MLD

1. Pleasance's Eastonite Rocafella of Katakia. Clear pied, up to size. Classic head shape with depth and width to foreface. Erect bat ears, set used and carried well. Good cushioning and fill under eyes. Plenty of bone and substance. Pleasing outline, Moved soundly.

2. Cutter's Dapledan Fils De Bernie. Very masculine dog. Lovely dark eyes with good ear placement. Open nostrils and good mouth. Need a little more depth and length to underjaw for ideal balance to skull and foreface. Good depth and spring of rib, deep brisket, Plenty of bone and substance. Movement OK

3 Bradford's. Siboveld's Sandro's Hit. Brindle with lovely head and expression. Excellent ear placement. Plenty of cushion and fill under the eye. Shapely body. Let down by rear movement today.

#### LD 11 (3)

1. **Tavio's Urban De El Mency Loco** . Quality young dog of 18 months who stood out in the class. Perfect for size, substance and bone. Excellent brindle coat. Masculine head with correct balance between a strong square skull and well padded foreface. Correct round dark eye with soft expression. Good width and depth of jaw, excellent dentition. Open nostrils. Good length of neck with strong well placed shoulders and straight front Cobby shapely body with depth of brisket and good cut up. Gentle topline and good length of tail Strong pasterns, neat feet and black nails which have become a rarity in the breed, Moved very well both front and rear. **RES CC**

2. Krall's Jafrak Friendly Persuasion. Lovely clear fawn. Masculine head with good balance between skull and forface. Correct ear set and dark eyes. Excellent pigmentation. Good straight front. Preferred his length of neck and the finish of his head to 3. I would like a gentler curve to his top line Moved soundly.

3. Barham's Hetana Celtic Gold at Karbull. Compact black masked fawn with a clear coat.

Correct head shape with dark round eyes and excellent ear placement, super pigmentation. Excellent straight front, with strong pasterns and neat feet. Deep rib and brisket. Strong short loins. Good cut up. I would prefer a just a little more length of neck, but otherwise a very good body shape and outline. Little straight on stifle but moves soundly.

OD. 6 Not an easy class to judge, such a variety of shape and types, made all the more difficult with the obvious quality of the winner. I made my choices on good points rather than outstanding faults

**1 Tavo's.Int Ch Caton De La Luna Oscura** Just my type. Stood out as soon as he entered the ring. Quality pied, in his prime, well marked with clear fine coat. Loved his outline, size, substance and obvious breed type. Masculine head. with ideal balance between his large square skull and wide deep cushioned muzzle. Plenty of fill under his well placed round dark eyes and the correct width and depth to the foreface, which is so sadly lacking in many exhibits Excellent eye, nose and ear placement. Correct layback, open nostrils, good dentition, Super bat ears carried upright and erect, used well. Strong gently arched neck leading to a straight front, excellent shoulder placement, good depth and spring of rib, short, strong, muscular loin and well rounded hindquarters. Gently roached top-line, with corresponding tuck up. Moderated hind angulation. For perfection I would have liked just a little more tail. Soundly constructed throughout, and with correct muscle tone consequently moved effortlessly owning the ring, handled to advantage and obviously adored by his owner. **DCC & BOB**

2.Logdon's Alsuma Shady Squire. Brindle of larger type , with plenty of bone and substance. Excellent body shape with good depth of rib and brisket. Straight square front, strong pasterns . A pleasing topline and well made hindquarters, could have more tail. Masculine head and expression. I preferred the overall balance and type of 1.Moved soundly

3.Neill's Barhale Dantari avec Lordsbarton, Fawn pied, super masculine head with no hint of coarseness. Open nostrils. Needs to carry more weight as he appears longer than he actually is. Excellent rear angulation and tail . Fantastic temperament. Not moving his best today. Placed on his good points not his faults.

VD 1 (1)

SpOPD 5 (1)

- 1.Cassidy's Frustyle Trend In Style For Chinaskys
- 2.Pleasance's Eastonite Rocafella of Katakia
- 3.Eastonite Jammy Dodger

SpOFD 4 (2)

- 1.Connor's Judeffrey Jovial of Ringablok. Won class on better overall balance than 2 Balanced head properties with dark eyes. Would preferred darker pigment especially on nose. Moved soundly
- 2.Allsops Jalatemmes Quizz Me Quentin

## SpOBD 5

1. Drummond's Ch Renuar New War Bonnet Glenlee . Strong head with excellent ear-set and carriage. Soft expression with round dark eyes, to be critical I would prefer them to be a tiny bit less prominent. Well padded muzzle which could be a tad shorter in length to present a better layback. Reasonable width to the under-jaw. Strong slightly arched neck of correct length. Pleasing front, strong pasterns and neat feet spoiled slightly by very light nails. Cobby body, plenty of rib and a pleasing top-line. Small tail present. Soundly constructed throughout which showed in his positive movement. Very well presented. Considered seriously for top honours as he is overall a quality dog. I just preferred the balance and type of my CC and Res CC winners.
2. Mavro Michaelis' Shoebridge Fitou Dark brindle with excellent masculine head and expression. Darkest of eyes and the best of ear shape and set. Moved soundly
3. Cutter's Dapledan Avec Qualite. Cobby masculine dog good bone and substance. In super condition. Moved soundly.

## MPB 15 (2)

1. Hines & Ashard's Rycolah Zephyr: Very promising puppy, well balanced with fine textured bridle coat. Excellent head properties developing with correct eye, nose and ear placement. Correct layback. Beautiful feminine expression. Enough bone and substance for age, shapely body and good spring of rib. Straight front. Strong pasterns and neat feet. Excellent muscle tone for one so young. Presented and shown to advantage. Moved soundly **BPB**
2. Mavro-Michalis'. Shoebridge Cote D'Auxerre. Fawn of very good colour with no smuttiness of coat.. Head developing nicely, super mouth. Lovely cobby type with good bone and substance, excellent tail. Moved well
3. Kendrick, Jones & Hughes Acirema Ana Matronic. Lovely head and feminine expression with super dark mask. Good ear, nose and eye placement. Dark pigment including black nails and dark eyes. Ears set and carried well. Lost out today as she was not quite as mature as 1 & 2

## PB 15 (3)

1. Clubley's Frabull's Maggie Thatcher Clear fawn with black mask and good pigmentation. I would prefer a finer textured to the coat. A little high on the leg for absolute balance , but a quality bitch of good type with correct bone and substance. Excellent head with balance between skull and foreface, good eye and nose placement. Pleasing expression, well padded muzzle of good width with excellent mouth. Ears set and carried very well. Cobby body with good spring of rib, very short coupled straight front, strong pasterns and neat feet. Moved soundly,
2. Ellis's. Eastonite Crystal Tips : Clear pied , presenting a very pleasing outline. Very pretty feminine expression and good head properties. I would prefer wider nostrils. Shapely body with good tail. Moved well
3. Mercer's Rycolah Poison Ivy; Well constructed fawn with attractive head , good nose ear and eye placement. Open nostrils Shapely body developing well, good tail. Movement needs to settle

#### JB 9 (1)

1. English's Norcairn Dark Desire at Bamark. Upstanding brindle. Well made throughout with bone and substance. Shapely body and gentle top line. Pleasing head and expression. Moved well.

2. Cagill's Barilballe Fooster Slightly longer cast than I but has type. Pleasing head and open nostrils Moved OK

3. Ellis's Eastonite Roll The Dice. Very compact and slightly stuffy. Excellent pigment with black nails. No tail. Moved OK

#### YB 7 (1)

1 Conway & Chapman's Norcairn Dark Encounter Brindle. Pleasing outline. A feminine head with square skull, and well shaped high set ears. Good nose and eye placement. Shapely cobby body. Strong straight front and neat feet . Moved OK

2 Cairns & Brooks's .Barilballe Fifis Prima with Corursus. Fawn pied with good overall construction. Good type with bone and substance. Very pretty head, dark eyes and feminine expression. Rear movement let her down today

3. Cargill's Warson Matilda at Barilballe Well made pied with excellent head and expression. Good tail and open nostrils Moved well.

#### PGB 15 (3)

1, Kendrick, Jones & Hughes Tommyville Tully at Acirema , Very feminine attractive clear fawn with black mask and good pigmentation, Lovely dark eyes giving a soft expression., Well set ears used to advantage. Open nostrils, good mouth. Well balance outline with, just enough bone for size, front good and tail. Soundly constructed throughout which showed in her movement. I would like just a little more of her.

2. Brooks Lowe , Hawkes & Swateridges Xentique Burlesque. Brindle with attractive head and expression. Very pleasing outline. Well constructed front. Preferred movement of 1.

3 Mavro- Michaelis'. Shoebridge Lunel Good type with pleasing outline, feminine head and expression. Excellent front and strong pasterns, Moved OK

#### MLB 3 (2)

1 Stemp's, Bullaslun Trix'N'Spells for Laudernell. Stood alone but worthy of her 1<sup>st</sup> place. Attractive brindle with good outline and balance. Enough bone for size. Excellent head properties with dark eyes and open nostrils. Delightful expression. Well muscled quarters moved well despite handler.

#### LB 10 (2)

1. **King's Kaos El Fryosa** Fawn who stood out for her quality, type, size and shape. Balanced throughout, She has a super head with correct layback and uses her large well carried ears, to advantage. Round dark eyes, correct nose placement and deep stop with a good mouth and broad skull giving her a classic expression. Strong neck and sound front assembly. Ample rib and strong short coupling makes her short and compact. Well muscled and good angulated hindquarters, moved very soundly. I judged her 2 years ago and liked her then and am pleased to see she has matured as expected. **CC Res BIS**

2, Edward's Fayeloui Blanche. Well pigmented fawn, with good bone and deep chest, slightly longer cast than 1 & 3. Good head properties with well placed eyes and good ear

set. Small tail present.

3.Barham's Hetana Zena Belle at Karlbull. Charming brindle of excellent type. Beautiful feminine head and expression, with well set ears and good nose placement. Good width and depth to ribs, straight front, short coupled, strong rear end, moved soundly.

Plenty of bone but far too much substance today which cost her higher place. Needs to loose a few pounds

OB 6 (2) Another difficult class with very different types

1.**Bradford's Siboveld's Santana** Beautifully marked pied with clear coat. To be critical I would prefer her to have a bit more width between her front legs for better balance throughout. Enough bone and substance for size. Excellent head, well padded muzzle , super ear, eye and nose placement. Feminine expression, open nostrils, great mouth and width of under jaw. Strong neck well placed shoulders, straight front. Sound rear quarters. One of the better movers here today very sound both front and rear.**Res CC**

2 Coway & Wright's .Ch Oro Jumaroro Action Alet Anashell. Eye catching dark brindle who took my eye when she entered the ring. Different in type to I and I preferred her overall balance but the finish of head and super movement of my winner tipped the scales. Gentle roach with shapely body, good width between a straight front and well-rounded rear end and low tail set, Good bone and substance for size. Superb condition with excellent fine coat Moves well.

3 S Pearce's.Ch Tillcar Flirt In A Skirt. Again a different type. Very feminine brindle. Attractive head and expression with good balance between skull and foreface. Good neck and a shapely body , Very nice in outline but disappointing on the move in comparison with 1 & 2..

VB 1

1. Logdon's Alsuma Snowstorm. 9 years old , well marked clear pied, with excellent head and expression. Soundly constructed throughout, moved very well. **BV**

SpOPB 4

1. Swateridge's Skybull Marie Antoinette Xentique Nicely brindle pied of correct size, substance and bone. Strong attractive head with lovely soft expression .Good type, well made throughout, topline could be better. Nice tail.

2.Cassidy'd Carpe Diem Savana for Chinaskys Well constructed clear pied with almost full black head. Feminine expression. Liked her bone and substance. Soundly constructed, but I would prefer a shorter coupling. Moved soundly

3.Cargill's Warson Matilda at Barilballe

SpOFB 5 (3)

1.Lamont's Laroyal Lady Liberty Compact black masked fawn with a clear coat. Good head shape with dark round eyes and excellent ear placement, super pigmentation. Excellent straight front, strong pasterns and neat feet. Deep ribs and short coupled loins. Good cut up. Needs a little more length of neck and more rear angulation. Moves soundly

2.Cox's Cosmicbullys Springtime Bo at Maisonlea. Not the overall balance of 1, but well made and moved OK

SpOBB 9 (7)

1.Lamont's Laroyal Drama Queen. Compact cobby brindle of correct type. Good bone and substance. Well constructed head with wide, deep padded muzzle. Good nose and eye placement. Ears could be more erect. Moved well

2.Thick's .Le Fox Whovian Angel. Compact cobby brindle not quite the bone and substance of 1. Well made throughout. Pleasing head and expression. Moved OK

Judge :

Penny Rankine-Parsons