

# WELKS CH SHOW 14 - French Bulldogs

## French Bulldogs

Thoroughly enjoyed my first Frenchie CC appointment. MPB & OB, in particular, were a joy to see. As always temperaments were a delight throughout. With the enormous entries the breed attracts nowadays it's difficult to generalise as of course there is, & no doubt always will be, a considerable variation in type, balance & size, part indeed of the breed's appeal. Type-wise, the question is, as ever, how compact is 'compact'. My preference is for a shade more scope & activity rather than the ultra-short ones but surely all have a place in the breed. Movement is never the breed's strongest attribute but thankfully none was lame. Often those with the required freedom of movement are not the best coming & especially going, & vice versa, so a degree of compromise is usually called for! Delighted to see that none showed any significant breathing issues though a few could have slightly more open nostrils. None showed skin problems, either, though I suspect a small amount of tear staining is inevitable. Most mouths were acceptable, with a few slightly too undershot or tending to show their tongue. I counted the tails, or lack thereof, and found that about a third of the entry had no tail or just the merest hint of one, this being most obvious among the older bitches. Perhaps one day we will have definitive guidance as to whether or not this matters but I guess it's still something to bear in mind.

**VD** (1) 1 Henderson's Bumbledor Takitimu, stately 8 years brindle, tremendous substance, excellent masculine head, well placed & carried ears, correct width of jaw, true front, good feet, OK topline, moved steadily, a shade close behind. **MPD** (13) 1 Davies' Alonzobar Will I Am for Anneddwen, quality brindle with a touch of class, appealing head type, dark eyes, good ears, true front, enough neck, the right amount of body for age, attentive to his handler, just needs to firm up a bit behind but makes a very smart picture. **BPD**; 2 Porter's Alonzabar Steve Austin, classy brindle, not surprised to find he was a litter brother, has a similar look though a slightly more compact balance, similar head type, moved truer behind than his brother but slightly wide in front & feet not so tight; 3 Beale's Cargray Here Comes The Sun. **PD** (9) 1 Cund's Chelmbull Ferrishyn Destiny, quality type brindle, super head proportions, looks at you right, OK front & bone, needs to steady up coming & going but scored on his excellent outline & balance; 2 Wallace's Rycolah Hemlock, reddish fawn, quality head, slightly preferred 1's expression, very good neck, front & shoulders, enough substance, slightly longer cast than 1 who scored on hindquarters; 3 Scott's Amuelle Monsieur Alphonse. **JD** (5) 1 Stewart's Pringham Mystro, very impressive headed fawn, well placed ears, good neck & bone, correct front, could be a bit more compact but strode out as if he meant business; 2 Gabb & Oldfield's Kentredecim Hot Favourite, reserve in PD, smart brindle of correct size, OK shape, neatly made, OK hindquarters, not bone or front of 1; 3 Mott's Eastonite Abraham for Bourgeoisie. **YD** (4) 1 Tasker's Sarabar Born To Bouggie, impressive up to size fawn, handsome head, super eyes & ears, plenty of bone, enough neck, distinct roach, could be stronger behind but has some presence; 2 McMunn's Goodbull Bob Marley, smaller compact brindle, good ears, not quite nose placement of 1, bone in proportion to size, neatly made, moved better behind than 1 but not quite the neck & shoulder; 3 Seton's Bobiso Frank Sinatra. **PGD** (8) Good even class, not much between the first three. 1 Smith's Rischale William, liked this brindle a lot, a good all-round unexaggerated dog & one of the truest movers here, quality head, the right amount of neck, correct front with bone down to his feet, good overall balance. Perhaps could be a shade smaller but has much to admire, looked well in the challenge; 2 Skrett's Risethor Sweeney Todd, smaller very quality brindle, excellent head, eyes & ears, true front, good feet, distinct roach, well balanced, just preferred 1's hindquarters; 3 Morgan & Ling's Norcairn Dark N Debonair at Tyltorro. **LD**(11) 1 Toes' Alsuma Pale Ryder for Zeppelin, showy hooded pied with great ring presence, super outline which he shows off with some style, very masculine head without being coarse, super bone & feet, excellent well muscled hindquarters which he uses to great effect, shapely body, well ribbed back, strides out with purpose, true behind, a shade close in front. Never let up in the challenge. CC, his second; 2 Drummond's Glenlee War Cloud, neat size fawn of a more compact build, good head without exaggeration, well set ears, OK bone, well bodied, moved true coming & going, my personal preference is for a shade more scope but an excellent example of his type; 3 Allsop's Hey Jude by Jalatemmes. **OD** (7) Quite a battle between the first two, very different but both with great virtues. 1 Friend's Multi Ch Kingfriend Mr Ali, small very neatly made dark brindle with great quality, beautifully put together, all the parts fitting without exaggeration, quality head, clean neck & shoulders, shapely body, bone in proportion to size, neat feet, very true mover, OK going round. Didn't project himself quite so well in the challenge. A classy boy who should do very well. RCC; 2 Drummond's Ch Renuar New War Bonnet Glenlee, bigger stylish brindle with some presence, masculine head, uses his neck well, slightly longer cast than 1, excellent bone & substance, scored going round but not quite so true front & rear. Hardest decision of the day; 3 Coffey's Tucker Bever Tail at Ragnelary.

**VB** (1) 1 Souter's Tommyville Topping at Greusaiche, lovely type 7 years brindle, so pretty, plenty of substance but with clean lines, still moves soundly & steadily, perhaps could have a shade more bone. BV by the narrowest of margins. **MPB** (16) What could be more enchanting than sixteen Frenchie baby girls? Plenty of quality here

should ensure a healthy future for the breed in the show ring. 1 Jennings' Kingfriend Miss California, lost my heart to this beautiful brindle, already an accomplished showgirl, gorgeous head, neck, shoulders, front, balance & hindquarters, shapely topline. Can tighten up a little coming & going but standing & going around she is the most perfect little model you could wish to see. BP; 2 Mason's Aprika Miss World, dark brindle, real baby but full of personality & quality, compact build but still with sufficient angulation, shapely body, charming expression. Naturally at just 6 months is not yet as mature in head as 1 but a very good mover, definitely two pups to watch, both by the same dog; 3 Smith's Acirema Charlies Angel at Sarabar. **PB** (7) 1 Clubley's Frabull's Maggie Thatcher, substantial very compact fawn, excellent head in proportion to her size, super ear carriage, very good front & bone, moved well in front, can tighten a bit behind; 2 Martin & Miller-Vanstone's Puissance Adore, pretty feminine fawn, OK head type but just preferred 1's expression, good bone, enough substance, well balanced, has a quality look, needs to settle on the move, not quite topline of 1; 3 Lunt's Taittinger Black Velvet. **JB** (3) 1 Drummond's Renuar Roberta Bohemienne Glenlee, pretty attractively marked rich brindle, good head type, dark eyes, good ear carriage, perhaps could have a shade more bone, super balance & topline, strode out well, plenty of quality; 2 Kasprowicz's Daniello Amidale Padmore, fawn, colour could be a bit clearer, plenty of bone & substance, good topline, moved true in front, a shade close behind, ear set a bit wide; 3 Shreeve's Gineters One And Only. **YB** (7) 1 Conway & Chapman's Norcairn Dark Encounter, top class brindle, superb head, gorgeous eyes & expression, excellent front & feet, very stylish, combines substance & femininity, good topline, very much 'together', moves well in front, a shade close behind, gave her mother a good run for her money in the challenge; 2 Jopling's Bumbledor Cassiopeia, slightly bigger pied, perhaps not quite so feminine but full of substance & solidity, impressive head, super front, good topline, could have a shade more bend of stifle but one of the better movers; 3 Smith's Rischale Ophelia. **PGB** (8) 1 Kendrick, Jones & Hughes' Tommyville Tully at Acirema, gorgeous quality ultra-feminine fawn whose clear colouring & black mask help the overall impression, delightful feminine head, irresistible eyes, super ear set, true front, clean neck & shoulder line, shapely topline into firm hindquarters, moves well from every angle and shows that it is possible to find Frenchies whose hind movement matches what other breeds can achieve, natural showgirl showing interest in all that's going on. CC & BOB, shortlisted in group; 2 English's Norcairn Dark Desire at Barmark, another quality brindle from this good litter, bit shorter than her sister & mother, excellent head, super front, plenty of substance, gentle roach, true mover, not quite the stride of 1, another to make an impression in the challenge; 3 Fraser, Kaye & Bootle's Tommyville Tanzanite at Daitoff. **LB** (7) 1 Rayns & Mott's Eastonite Lady Thatcher, the second Iron Lady among my class winners and like the other one a lady of considerable power & substance! Strongly made in head & body yet still feminine, shapely body, plenty of bone, looked the part standing, just wish she had been more positive on the move but her type & style won her a difficult class; 2 Brown's Sake de Elka Gyvybes Zyme at Kuredeux, pretty quality more refined brindle. Head in proportion, well placed ears, well ribbed back, just preferred 1's hindquarters; 3 Finney & Ainsworth's Kalhols Sheer Magic at Sanguliano. **OB** (11) What a galaxy of stars, splitting hairs between the first five & beyond. 1 Conway & Chapman's Ch Norcairn Dark Angel, handsome brindle whose head, expression, ears, neck, shoulders & front would surely be difficult to improve upon, super bone, strides out beautifully & makes her presence felt. CC winner was marginally better in hind action. Glad to see she is making her mark as a brood too; 2 Rawsthorne's Risethor Poppiholla, top class brindle of similar type & size, again great bone & substance, super front, topline & quarters. Slightly preferred 1's expression. Well deserves to be a champion as does 3 Beale's Kargrays Diamond Dazzler.

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