

Cavaliers of The West

07/03/2016, Oakland, CA

Judge: Dr. Annukka Paloheimo (Anncourt, Finland)

Having been in the breed since 1970s and living also in USA (New York) in the 1980s, this appointment was a very special one for me. I have bred Cavaliers for over 40 years and judged them in most parts of the world for 30 years. I was a student of the late Mrs Amice Pitt whose guidelines I still try to follow, even with the ever increasing 'fashion' in our breed. I was worried whether I would find only ultra short muzzles and heavy, round skulls, and short legged heavy coated dogs, but luckily this was not the case - how delighted I was to find in majority the classic, moderate Cavalier. What impressed me most was all those lovely dark big eyes, truly unique to find so many. This naturally resulted in glorious soft expressions, the hallmark of our breed. Also pigment was fantastic, and the size in general quite perfect, a true toy spaniel with a moderate bone. As the size in many countries is rapidly growing, it was satisfying to see that you have managed this issue so well.

Being a 'horse person' (and FCI all breed judge), I put quite a lot of emphasis on proportions and good balance and sound, effortless yet light movement, together with good topline and tail carriage. All my winners moved well, which is not so certain in many countries.

Bitch classes were stronger than male classes, and this is always good for the breed. There were many bitches I would gladly have taken home! All in all, I was pleased to see the tremendous progress that the breed has taken in USA, and must congratulate the breeders. Thank you for your work!

I wish to thank the committee and especially Ms. Kathy Tegg for the well-run show with a kind atmosphere: my judging task was made easy with brilliant stewards, most notably Victoria Malinak, and the venue was perfect. In most countries there is not the luxury of indoor hall with perfect soft carpet and good lighting. How special! Many classes were rather small, but it did not mean there would be a lack of quality – quite contrary. I appreciate some exhibitors had travelled from far, I find this to be your strength. My only regret for the weekend was that as I was judging on the last day of it, I had no chance to socialize with you, the exhibitors. Thank you for the memorable day.

JUNIOR PUPPY DOG (4)

1. **Crossbow Horton Hears a Who** (Kubin/Schiffman) What a promising puppy. Excellent type, excellent soft expression, excellent pigment, correct stop and earset, good bone, strong hindquarters, balanced mover, happy. Naturally very immature, but has all the promise. ***Reserve Winners Dog, Best Puppy in Show***
2. **Briarcrest Harris Tweed** (Rezowalli/Van Luchene) Bigger dog, could be a bit shorter in loin for better balance. Strong bone. Lovely expression due to perfect stop,

excellent eyes and pigment. Needs to get more strength to hindquarters. Promising coat.

3. **Crossbow Virgil Jackson** (Kubin/Schiffman) Very raw. Excellent hindquarters, correct bone, good markings, good pigment. Rear movement needs more strength.
4. **Rutherford Renee** (Joners/Kruse) Quite small dog, very sweet expression, would prefer a bit more bone. Excellent colour and markings, promising coat.

SENIOR PUPPY DOG (3)

“Lovely quality class.”

1. **Dulce Carmel Awesome Sauce** (Covell) Very balanced, well moving dog on a larger size. Excellent head, eyes, classic tapered muzzle, excellent pigment, excellent neck, good bone, excellent coat texture.
2. **Briarcrest Going for Baroque** (Katz) Excellent size, masculine head with good cushioning, excellent ears, just enough bone, could have stronger angulation, good coat. ***Best Tricolour in Show***
3. **Dallarock Flight Thyme** (Geldermann) Excellent proportions, correct bone, lovely eyes. Rather steep stop and stronger skull, good neck, promising coat of rather light colour, very good mover, very happy.

GRADUATE PUPPY DOG (1)

1. **Astarring Love Davy Crockett** (Foster) Excellent size, strong bone, handsome head with rather deep stop, lovely eyes, good pigment, excellent tapered muzzle, coat rather woolly, good markings, lovely colour, could be a bit more outgoing.

NOVICE DOG (1)

1. **Mayfield Me And Bobby McGee** (Lunbeck) Tricolor dog of perfect size and substance. Rather short muzzle, strong jaws, excellent markings so difficult to achieve in this colour, would prefer more drive from behind, but a balanced mover.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOG (3)

1. **Ch Brookhaven Here Comes Hogan, JW** (Ayers/Martz) Excellent proportions and size, best of colour, balanced head with perfect pigment, good eyes, correct stop, good bone, good mover, excellent silky coat texture. Head needs more time to fill in.
2. **Ch Jadestone Legend Has It, JW** (Peek) Sweet expression, lovely eyes, a bit short in muzzle, good bone, strong hindquarters, coat should be silkier and less volume. Good mover.
3. **Shirmont Caddo Balliol** (Henry/Rosenberg) Unfortunately rather slim condition today, needs to get more substance in the body, very good proportions, strong head, good colour, body coat needs more time to grow, good balanced mover.

AMERICAN BRED DOG (2)

1. **Harrington Haute Stuff** (Tompkins/Gonyo) Bigger dog with excellent balance, correct head proportions, but a bit heavy, excellent ear set and ears, balanced angulation, good neck, correct coat, easy mover.
2. **Can Ch Del Sol One More Look at Quail Run** (Kornhi/Wells) Bigger dog with good substance. Would prefer larger eye and darker eye rims, excellent front, good body, coat today not in best form, good mover.

HEALTH AND CONFORMATION DOG (1)

1. **Ch Benchmark Up in the Air Onthemark** (Chan/Mitchell) Excellent size, rather slim condition, excellent free movement, good eyes, at six years of age missing some teeth, good neck, correct bone, could have a bit more white on the body.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM DOG (4)

1. **Bekenhall Shirmont Hes The Ticket** (Henry/Henry) Excellent size and proportions, lovely eyes, rather deep stop, good pigment, good front and neck, correct bone, good strong hindquarters, good side movement, coat could be silkier.
2. **Rockcreek Mark Me First at Hiflt, JW** (Parris/Steagall) Excellent size, excellent coat, rather short in muzzle, excellent ears, very good mover, but too proud of his tail.
3. **Creekside Watch Out For Me!** (Mathies) Correct proportions, profuse coat of correct silky texture, excellent colour, rather short muzzle and deep stop, good pigment, muzzle could be better tapered (lips), balanced angulation, good neck, a bit too proud of his tail.
4. **Covington Hopjack at Kendall Kastle** (Ogle) Very sound dog of larger size, lovely type, excellent eyes and pigment, good neck and front, coat needs more attention, should be silkier and straighter.

SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOR DOG (1)

1. **Eng. Ch. Stonepet Franco I Believe** (Gentil/Searle) Very glamorous, good size, rather heavy bone, rather strong skull and short muzzle, would prefer more refinement, lovely eyes, perfect markings, excellent neck, balanced mover, but would like to see more drive.

SPECIAL LIMIT RUBY DOG (1)

1. **Kolaci Magic Cinnamon Spice** (Legerretta/Gray) Excellent type and proportions, excellent head and expression, good pigment, excellent colour, promising silky coat but not ready, very good balance, lovely temperament, steady mover but could have today more drive, coat needs more time to complete the picture. ***Best Ruby in Show***

OPEN DOG (5) “Excellent class!”

1. **Ch. and Eng. Ch. Brookhaven Believe or Not** (Ayers/Martz) Lovely true elegant toy spaniel, perfect proportions, very compact, perfect size, lovely eyes, excellent ears, correct bone, a bit slim today, correct silky texture of coat, balanced easy mover.) ***Best in Show, Winners Dog, Best Bred by Exhibitor in Show, Best American Bred in Show, Best Blenheim in Show***
2. **Ch. Covington True Blood** (Gonyo/Mohn) Bigger dog with slightly longer lines, very sound, classic head shape, excellent eyes, spot, excellent neck, correct bone, strong hindquarters, good mover, coat should be silkier.
3. **Ch. Forestcreek Heart Of Rock N Roll, JW** (Painter/Cline) Very compact shape, rather heavily marked, lovely eyes, good pigment, excellent ears, needs more coat to finish the picture. Sound mover, but would like to see a bit more drive today.
4. **Ch. Pascavale Bijou** (Cline) Glamorous tricolor with profuse coat, excellent markings so difficult to achieve in this colour, rather strong skull and shorter muzzle, strong hindquarters, good mover, lovely presentation.

SENIOR OPEN DOG (1)

1. **Ch. Orchardhill Shirmont Back Talk, JW** (Henry/Henry/Jones/Scott) 9.5 years of age, excellent size, lot of substance, excellent colour, strong head, still full dentition, excellent neck, very sound, powerful mover, credit to his

JUNIOR PUPPY BITCH (3)

1. **Del Sol Love in An Elevator** (McHenry) Excellent type and proportions, size and substance, correct bone, balanced head, rear movement needs more development, excellent colour.
2. **Crownrose Tempest in A Teapot** (Rosenberg/Rosenberg) Excellent size and colour, promising head, good bone, good body and hindquarters, tail set could be better, super temperament.
3. **Sonesta California Dreaming** (Ellingson/Pennington) Very petite and pretty, would need stronger bones, good eyes and pigment, correct proportions, well presented, good temperament.

SENIOR PUPPY BITCH (3)

1. **Briarcrest Oh So Rococo** (Van Luchene/Van Luchene) Correct size, classic type, very sound, very good head for this age, good strong hindquarters, excellent silky coat texture, balanced mover. ***Best Puppy Bitch, Best Tricolour in Show***
2. **Rutherford Pippa** (Jones) Smaller puppy with good proportions, good eyes, correct head proportions, good silky coat texture, moves well.
3. **Forestcreek Florence** (Cline) I thought she would be my winner! Lovely type, full of quality, lovely eyes and good shape. Unfortunately something scared her and at this tender age she would not co-operate with her handler, could not assess her movement. A puppy with a brilliant future once again settled.

GRADUATE PUPPY BITCH (3)

1. **Mimric Fiddle Dee Dee, JW** (Hodges/Perkins) Bigger size, classic head, lovely eyes, excellent pigment, excellent ears, correct bone, could be shorter in loin, good hindquarters.
2. **Astarring Love Always** (Foster) Slightly low on legs, good eyes, rather steep stop, excellent pigment, lovely neck, correct bone, excellent hindquarters, promising coat.
3. **Ivyline Sugar Puff** (Giampapa) Best of eyes, excellent ears, a bit short in muzzle, too square in shape, would need more angulation, good coat and markings, perfect toy spaniel size.

JUNIOR AMERICAN BRED BITCH (4)

1. **Sikeleli Emily Bronte at Quail Run** (Kornhi) Good size, pretty head, good eyes and expression, correct earset, balanced angulation, correct bone, good topline, excellent markings.
2. **Harrington Covington Pearl of A Girl** (Gonyo/Gonyo) Lovely eyes, correct head, good ears, good front and neck, good body, hind movement needs more strength.
3. **Forestcreek Bewitching Girl** (Cline/Cline) Excellent proportions, good eyes and pigment, rather short in muzzle, lovely markings, coat today a bit fluffy, tail carriage disturbed the topline.
4. **Quail Run Charlotte Elizabeth** (Frater/Kornhi) Very petite, lovely eyes, good bone for her size, excellent colour, very short coat today, topline and hind movement need to improve, lovely temperament.

AMERICAN BRED BITCH (5) “Another super class!”

1. **Tassajara Forestcreek Cristal** (Cline) Lovely glamour girl, excellent proportions and size, lovely eyes and pigment, very sound, good body, positive mover, profuse coat of silky texture, markings could be clearer on the body. ***Reserve Best in Show, , Best of Opposite Sex, Winners Bitch, Best Blenheim Bitch, Best American Bred Bitch***
2. **Brookhaven Bless Your Heart at Sorella, JW** (Green/Savage/Ayers/Martz) Lovely classic type, full of quality, excellent eyes, excellent pigment, correct bone, excellent colour and coat texture. Considered her for top honours but her hind movement today was not as effortless as the winners. Needs more power in the back.
3. **Jadestone Legendary Story** (Peek) Good size, correct bone, lovely eyes, good ears, rather short in muzzle, good hindquarters giving her a good movement, could have less coat, would like to see a silkier texture.
4. **Cedar Creek Sugar N Spice** (Owens) Correct size and proportions, excellent head, eyes, pigment and ears, correct bone, lovely colour, unfortunately not much coat today.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM BITCH (4)

1. **Bluegarden Exclusive, JW** (Matos/Glynn) Excellent type and size, a bit short in muzzle, balanced angulation, good side movement, not in full coat today but has lovely silky texture and good colour. ***Best Bred By Exhibitor Bitch***
2. **Sigma Chi Marigold at Shirmont** (Henry/Henry/Whitney/Whitney) Similar shape, excellent eyes, pigment and ear set, good neck, coat could be longer.
3. **Dreamvale Follow Fashion, JW** (Sage/Colbert) Excellent size and substance, lovely eyes, rather heavy skull, a bit short on legs, good body, moves well with good attitude.
4. **Blue Moon Cavaliers Gamble On Galaxie** (Legerretta/Gray) Heavily marked, should have more white on body, lovely eyes and ears, deep stop, correct bone, good coat, needs a firmer topline, full of energy.

SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOR BITCH (1)

1. **Benchmark Shameless** (Chan/Mitchell) Rather strong, very sound, classic head shape, strong jaws, lovely eyes and ears, strong bone, excellent front, touch long in loin, strong hocks, topline could today be firmer.

SPECIAL LIMIT RUBY BITCH (1)

1. **Kalidunn Cherry Chill at Lilycroft** (Karcher/Karcher) Very petite and feminine, lovely eyes, rather short muzzle, good teeth, could have more bone and stronger hind angulation, good silky coat, colour a shade light on the body, good on face, would like to see her moving with more drive. ***Best Ruby Bitch***

OPEN BITCH (4)

“What a lovely class! Each one of them a special one.”

1. **Ch. Carmas Penne Pasta at Crizwood** (Moulton/Wornall) Up to size, most glamorous bitch in top form, excellent proportions, such a good leg length and compact body, wonderful eyes, great ears, spot, excellent hind quarters, in full coat that could be touch straighter and silkier today, good markings and colour. Perfectly presented. ***Reserve Winners Bitch.***
2. **Ch. Foxwyn A Likely Story** (Baker-Fox/Greak/Comer) Excellent type, shape and size, lovely expression, eyes and pigment, correct bone, good body. Unfortunately very out of coat today.
3. **Ch. Jayba Delicious** (Lander/Lander) Lovely head and expression, good ears, could have more leg length for more balanced proportions, good body, excellent condition, full coat, moves well.
4. **Ch. Linrica Just A Dream, JW** (Hsiung/Liu) Strong head, good eyes, excellent colour and markings, which is rare for a tricolor, good body, correct bone, front could be better, could have more leg length for more balanced proportions, happy

VETERAN DOG (1)

1. **Ch Orchardhill Shirmont Back Talk, JW** (Henry/Henry/Jones/Scott) See earlier critique. This dog was one of the soundest movers today, what an energy!