

Border Collie Club of Great Britain Championship Show – 20 March 2022

Thank you to the Committee for inviting me to judge the Bitches at this very friendly and well organised show.

BITCH CC & BEST IN SHOW Hoskins' Birkcross Gracie at Lefevre
DOG CC & RESERVE BEST IN SHOW Fawcett's Laceway Ready to Rumble

RESERVE DOG CC Gregory's Tidespring Tonight I am here at Tonkory
RESERVE BITCH CC Broadhurst's Tonkory Under the Sun at Rosehurst

BEST PUPPY BITCH & BEST PUPPY IN SHOW Simmons & Inverno's Simmovon Sheer Delight
BEST PUPPY DOG & RESERVE BEST PUPPY IN SHOW Oliver's Simmovon Shockwave at Tambuzi

BEST VETERAN BITCH & BEST VETERAN IN SHOW Fawcett's Sh Ch Laceway Echo Falls JW
BEST VETERAN DOG & RESERVE BEST VETERAN IN SHOW Walters' Goytre Smokin Gun

BORDER COLLIE - Bitches

Thank you for the lovely entry, which was not only numerically high, but was also full of quality. In many classes I was spoilt for choice and I could have easily awarded the CC to several bitches on the day.

Due to the abundant quality I had to reluctantly penalise a number of minor faults on some exhibits who would perhaps have been placed higher in different company. All exhibits were presented in a clean condition, which was much appreciated.

I was happy with the general overall confirmation of the bitches however, a couple were noted as having level or near level bites, one was short in tail, and a couple were unsettled when being gone over. For these reasons they were placed lower in their respective classes than might otherwise have been the case. Some would benefit from less weight which would have improved their movement. Most exhibits were moved at a reasonable pace, which allowed my principal winners to show both correct reach and drive, with only a couple of handlers attempting to sprint around the ring in their classes.

Finally, a big thank you to my 2 superb stewards who kept the ring moving along efficiently all day, allowing a timely finish by mid-afternoon.

Minor Puppy Bitch (5,1)

1). Lusty's Birkcross Simply the Zest for Blamorder; Black & White who has just turned 6 months old, attending her first show. Classically marked, sweet head and expression, well used ears. Good angulation to front and rear, Nicely presented coat and in good condition, but very raw as you would expect at this stage. Moved well when settled showing correct reach and drive. In the subsequent challenge for best puppy bitch she was clearly a bit overwhelmed at the end of a long day, so had to give way to the more mature puppy.

2). Hughes' Langamay Go with the Flo; 8 months old Blue Merle bitch. Nice head and expression, correct eye colour and pigmentation. Good front assembly and developing nicely in body and coat. Correct rear angulation and moved ok around the ring.

3). Large & Preston's Calareto Mist in my Soul: Another one at the upper end of the class age range at 8 months and presented well by her young handler. Black & White, sweet head and expression but a bit reluctant to use her ears. Smaller size overall and a touch high in the rear at present. Angulation was good to front and rear and was in nice coat. Moved well for a puppy.

Puppy Bitch (7,1)

1). Simmons & Inverno's Simmovon Sheer Delight; A 10 month old Black & White who is darker in face and markings, but she is a bitch of undeniable quality. Has a beautiful head and expression, dark eye and well used ears. Good neck reaching on to a correct front assembly. Lovely coat presented in a gleaming condition and well bodied for her age. Good rear angulation. Handled to best advantage and moved well at all times. Pleased to award her BPB and with the agreement of my co-judge BPIS over her litter brother, who showed many similar attributes. Congratulations on breeding such a quality litter.

2). Lusty's Birkcross Now or Never Blamorder; Another puppy that I really liked. Only 8 months old, so therefore giving a little bit away in development terms against some of the more mature puppies. Classically marked Black & White, she has a beautiful head with everything in proportion and has a good neck and front angulation. Not as mature in body as the winner but has good rear angulation and is still developing her coat. She was a touch fidgety when being gone over, but not enough to penalise her as she is only a baby. Moved very well around the ring which earned her this placing.

3). Kinaway Dreams with Fire (AI); 10 months old with many pleasing attributes. Classically marked Black & White with a sweet head and expression. Good front and rear angulation, lovely coat and condition, but just a touch long in body for my preference compared to the first 2 in the class. Moved well.

Junior Bitch (8,3)

A close decision between the first 2 here who could easily swap places for me on another day. 1). Kempton's Borderbrook Winter Sunset, a darker faced 15 month old Black & White bitch with good head properties. Nice front and good shoulders and well bodied for her age. Drives well from the rear and was presented in good coat and condition.

2). Lee & Ratcliffe's Arrodare Rebel with a Cause; A quality youngster presenting a pleasing profile on the stack., Black & White, good head and expression, enough reach of neck onto a good front assembly. Nicely balanced overall. Good rear angulation and the correct turn of stifle. Moved well in all directions. Well-handled and presented.

3). Portman & Portman's Laceway Dream of Albion; 14 month classically marked Black & White. Sweet head and expression. Would prefer a touch more neck, nice straight front. Touch longer cast in body than the winners. Good rear angulation. Moved ok but would benefit from more rear drive.

Yearling Bitch (6,0)

1). Oliver's Tambuzi Girlz on Fire JW; I really liked this young Black & White bitch. Lovely head and expression with correct well used ears. Good reach of neck, strong chest and a good straight front. Well bodied with correct length of loin and good rear angulation. Moved smoothly coming and going and held her topline well. Presented in beautiful coat and condition. Will be interested to see how she matures, as I believe she could have an exciting show career.

2). Kempton's Borderbrook Winter Sunset; *Second in JB*

3). De Cree & Schevenels' Eyes of the World Total Eclipse of the Heart; This young Black & White bitch has a beautiful head and expression. Good neck, but I would prefer slightly better angulation to the shoulder. Well bodied and good rear angulation. Lovely coat and condition. A touch erratic on the move today, but moved ok in the parts when she was settled.

Novice Bitch (5,2)

1). Gregory's Top of the Class at Tonkory; Fourth in Puppy Bitch, but she was much more settled in this class. Black & White of 10 months of age, Nice dark head with a sweet expression. Correct eye shape and well used ears. Good reach of neck into correct shoulders, which complemented a good front assembly. Nice rear angulation and correct turn of stifle. Slightly too long cast for me, which showed in a soft topline on the move. Presented in good coat and condition.

2). Turns' Fyglia Mei Titania; Workmanlike Blue Merle; with good head properties. Correct eye colour and pigmentation. Finer built all through but with a good topline. Strong rear construction which was well muscled and moves well.

3). Turns' Fyglia Cherished Mustardseed. Also a Blue Merle and a daughter of the second in this class, so many of the same comments apply. Typical head and well used ears. Narrow all through and still yet to develop in body and chest. A bit erratic on the move, as she seemed to get distracted by her kennel mate.

Post Graduate Bitch (13,4)

1). Preston's Calareto This Bird has Flown; 3-year old Black & White with lovely head qualities, giving a beautiful expression. Good neck, front, and shoulders, mature in body and has good rear angulation. Lovely coat and condition. So well balanced and moved positively around the ring, with reach and drive which just enabled her to head this class over another quality bitch.

2). Lewis' Shemella Shepherds Delight; 2-year old classically marked Blue & White bitch who is maturing nicely. Sweetest of heads good eye colour and well used ears. Good front assembly and body developing nicely. Good rear angulation which shows on the move. A shade longer than the winner, but very little to choose between them.

3). Allison's Kinaway a Million Dreams (AI); Black & White with a nice head & ears and a broad white blaze over the top of the skull. Reasonable neck and shoulders, needs a touch more chest and body, but has time on her side as she is only just 2 years old. Good rear angles and was positive on the move.

Mid Limit Bitch (7,0)

1). Broadhurst's Tonkory Under the Sun at Rosehurst; A 4-year old Black & White bitch who has matured along the right lines. Lovely head, correct eye shape and colour, and well used ears, giving the sweetest of expressions. One of the best front assemblies on the day with good angulation to shoulders and a straight front. Well bodied and a good length of loin finished off with correct rear angulation. Presented in lovely coat and condition, she moved with ease around the ring never once breaking her stride. In the final run-off of 3 for the ticket, but whilst not quite making the top award I could not deny her the RCC. She was also my choice for RBIS, but as my co-judge and I could not agree, the final decision was the Referee's, who went with the dog.

2). Lewis' Shemella Moonlight Skye: Litter sister to the second in the previous class but this time Black & White. Nice head, ears and expression. Neck and shoulders are correct as is the rear angulation. Again, a touch longer cast than the winner which emphasises the need for more chest but this should develop over time. Coat was nice but needs to be a touch fuller to give a finished picture. Moved well in all directions.

3). Kinton's Kinaway Kisses with Fire (AI); Black & White, with a typical head and expression. Neck and shoulders are ok, slightly longer cast in body overall which gives the impression of a slightly soft topline on the move. Good rear angulation. Moves ok but on the return, she can appear to be a touch wide, which can affect her front action.

Limit Bitch (10,2)

1). Fawcett's Laceway Raise the Roof; Classically marked Black & White bitch showing abundant qualities. Lovely head with correct shaped eye and a sweet expression. Up and tipped ears which were used to best advantage. Good flowing neck into correct shoulders and good front angulation. Well bodied as she is now reaching maturity at 3 years of age. Held her topline well around the ring and showed good movement both coming and going. Coat just starting to blow, but that could not detract from her lovely construction. Shortlisted to the final three run off for the CC.

2). Lee & Ratcliffe's Arrodare Royal Flush JW; A pleasing nearly 4 year old Blue & White. Nice head with correct eye colour for her coat. Good reach of neck, reasonable shoulder angulation and a good straight front. Nice depth of chest, good firm topline, and good rear angulation. Moved smoothly around the ring with reach and drive Well-presented and handled to show her to best advantage.

3). Mead's Quintopia Blackbird; Darker type but a very pretty bitch with the sweetest of heads and expression. A 2-year old Black & White, who was presented in nice coat and condition Has lovely construction, with a straight front and good angles to both front and rear. This construction showed in her lovely clean movement, and she was well handled to give her this place in very good company.

Open Bitch (10,2)

1). Hoskins' Birkcross Gracie at Lefevre; I remember judging this bitch some years ago when she won a strong limit class under me. I noted at the time that I felt she just lack the maturity that day for top honours. That is certainly not the case now ! She has blossomed into a top-class bitch who is in her absolute prime. She is an ultra-feminine Black & White, with the sweetest of heads and expressions, accentuated by well used ears. Her construction is lovely with correct shoulders, neck and forechest. She has good front and rear angulation. which showed in her smooth, effortless, driving action around the ring. Presented in lovely coat and condition. Pushed hard today by some other excellent bitches, but on this occasion, I could not deny her the CC and with the complete agreement of my co-judge, the BIS award. Congratulations. I was informed afterwards that this was her second CC – I am sure her crowning ticket cannot be far away.

2). Simmons' Sh Ch Sashdan Never Ending Story (AI) JW; Another quality Black & White bitch and easy to see why she is already titled. The most feminine of heads, with no coarseness and well used ears. Lovely reach of neck set onto good shoulders. Correct angulation to front and rear with good construction throughout and this showed at all times in her easy flowing action around the ring. Presented in immaculate condition and another I could easily give top awards to on a different occasion

3). Gregory's Tonkory Putting on The Style: Classically marked Black & White with a nice head and expression. Good front and shoulders and good rear angulation. Nice coat and condition, however I would prefer a touch more length of body. Has a good side gait, but on the return, she can appear to be a touch untidy in her front action.

Special Open (Colour) Bitch (7,2)

1). Smith & Green's Fayken Striptease JW; A lovely prick eared 5-year old Blue & White. Classically marked with a nice head and expression. Good neck, shoulders, and front assembly. Well bodied and with a good topline and rear angulation. Moved smoothly at all times, well presented and handled.

2). Spurr's Dreamwork Collat'ral Beauty; A very pretty nearly 4 year old Red Merle bitch. Lovely head and ears, nice blue eyes and correct pigmentation for her colouring. Good front angulation, but a touch narrower through the chest and body than the winner. Good length of back and loin, with nice rear angles which showed in her smooth powerful action around the ring.

3). Hughes' Langamay Go with the Flo; *Second in MPB*

Good Citizen Dog Scheme Bitch (5,1)

1). Tansley's Bilyara Ice Maiden; A 9 year old Black & White who was well presented. She has a nice head and expression, reasonable length of neck and a good front. A touch long in body but has good rear angulation. Nice coat and condition. Moves around the ring in a precise and measured manner.

2). Buckley's Tambuzi True Colours to Amkamel; Black & White who has just reached 3 years of age. Classically marked with a reasonable head eyes and ears. Good neck and shoulders, well bodied for her age and presented in nice coat and condition. I would like a touch more rear angulation as this would help with her drive on the move.

3). Turns' Fyglia Mei Titania: *Second in NB.*

Veteran Bitch (9,2)

A lovely class headed by 2 quality Champion bitches. 1). Fawcett's Sh Ch Laceway Echo Falls JW. Another Black & White bitch I have judged before and cannot believe she is now a veteran as she does not look her age. A glamorous show bitch with a pretty head and expression. Correct eyes and well used ears. Lovely front angulation with good chest and a straight front, well balanced in profile good rear angulation turned out in lovely condition. Good movement coming and going with a very smooth side gait. Pleased to award her this class and then also watch her go BVIS on the Referee's decision.

2). Walters' Sh Ch Daddy's Saucie Girl JW; I have judged this 9-year-old classically marked Black & White before and given her top honours. She was, as always, presented in good coat and condition. She has lovely head proportions giving a nice soft expression. Nice reach of neck onto well angulated shoulders. Well bodied and a good rear action, giving such a balanced overall picture. She goes around the ring smoothly, and presents a pleasing image both moving and standing, however today I just slightly preferred the more positive reach and drive of the younger bitch on the move.

3). Preston & Large's Wizaland Soothe My Soul; A 7-year old Black & White of. A nice type. She has a good head with a nice expression, reasonable length of neck and shoulders. Well bodied and has good rear angulation. Moved soundly around the ring, but just lacked the fluency of the 2 Champions in front of her.

Special Open Working Bitch (1,0)

1). Lewis' Shemella Drifting Snow; Another lovely oldie who does not look like a Veteran. Blue & White with good head shape and well used ears. Well-built with good shoulders and front assembly. Lovely coat colour, well bodied and presented in lovely condition. Correct rear angulation, which showed in her smooth movement around the ring. She was more settled in this class than in Veteran.

Gary R. Clarke (Judge)