

ENGLISH SETTER ASSOCIATION

CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

20TH APRIL 2025

BITCH CRITIQUE

My thanks go to the committee of The English Setter Association for firstly inviting me to judge at this prestigious show and secondly for the hospitality shown to me. This is the breed with which I've been associated for over 45 years now and I consider it a great honour to be asked to judge the breed. Thank you all exhibitors for entering your bitches for my assessment.

After going over many beautiful bitches my main point of concern at the end of my day's judging was the length of a number of exhibits, more so in the younger age range classes. This is something that breeders should bear in mind when planning their breeding programme.

MPB 7,1 1. Watkin's Albadora Totally Yours for Valsett, this 7mth o/b shows a pleasing outline on her correctly proportioned frame. Feminine head with a dark eye. Clean in neck supported by a good front assembly. Shortest coupled exhibit of the class but with good angulation front and rear. Level topline, short in loin, well bent stifle and pleasing hock and didn't disappoint on the move. 2. Vallance's Rowanmyle of Prudent Lore, 6mth b/b who possesses an attractive lean head that carries a dark eye and pleasing foreface. Clean neck into good shoulders, good return of upper arm and correct round bone. Level topline, good quarters from which she moved well. A little longer cast than 1 but all the same a joy to go over. 3. Forrest's Elvistar Falling in Love.

PB 4,0 1, Stephenson's Bournehouse In Dreams at Steeplow, A pleasing outline to this 10mth old girl. Sweetest of feminine heads with correct planes and dark eye; showing correct occipital protuberance. This girl is very well bodied given her age, strong neck into well placed shoulders with good upper arm. She shows a level topline to her short coupled frame. Well angulated quarters and short in hock. Good tail set. Moved well but would like to see more animation. BPB. 2, Williams' Bournehouse Keep Dreaming, litter sister to 1. An upstanding tricolour girl with good head properties and possessing a dark eye. Close up to 1 with many of the same qualities shown. A slightly bigger frame supported on round boned limbs. Level topline, pleasing angulation to hindquarters with short hocks. Not quite so positive on the move. 3, Forrest's Elvistar Falling in Love.

VB 2/0 It was very pleasing to feel the fantastic condition of both of these exhibits and all credit must go to their owners 1, Rumble's Jotunheim Ooh La la, Belies her 7.5 years of age. A well-proportioned, lovely head with a well-defined occiput & good stop. Correctly shaped and darkest of eyes. She stood on forelegs of correct bone. Clean, muscular neck which blends so smoothly into her quality shoulder and these of good length. She shows a short coupled frame and quality hindquarters supported on short hocks. She moved round the ring with ease. BVB & BVIS. 2, Tucker's Niddbeck Smokey Opal at Walshaw JW, another top quality veteran of 9.5yrs. A quality head with super square foreface. Well-muscled neck into excellent shoulders. Not quite the topline of 1. A good frame with lovely spring of rib. Lovely tail action as she moved well round the ring.

JB 4/0 1. Welburn's Oshowa Just a Dream, b/b with a nicely proportioned, feminine head with good eye shape and colour. Correct bone to forelegs and neat, rounded feet. Correct front pastern. Level topline and strong in loin. Well balanced with pleasing hindquarters. Moved well. 2, Tompsett's Radbrooks Walk of Life. A longer cast girl who was intent on giving her handler a hard time. Decent head but I would prefer a little more definition. Muscular neck and good in upper arm. Her outline shows a level topline and she is strong in loin. Good quarters. On the move she was a bit erratic and not as one with her handler. 3 Hoskin's Scillysett One Vision.

YB 7/2 1, Phillips' and Watkins' Glenmaurangi Cassiopeia. This tricolour girl took my eye on entering the ring. She is of outstanding quality and one who's future I will watch with interest. She has a lovely head with a well-covered eye of correct shape. She shows a quality forehand with correct upper arm and super lay back of shoulder that results in a smooth transition from her strong neck into her level topline. She has the correct spring of rib and is well ribbed back producing short strong loins. The good angulation of her hindquarters sets off her whole balance. She moved effortlessly around the ring. Pleased to award her the RCC. 2, Hutchinson's and Dennis' Mariglen My Heart Will Go On with Monaysbridge JW, b/b elegant girl. As with 1, a quality, well-proportioned head with good stop. Strong, muscled neck and forming a clean transition into her correct topline. Correct return of upper arm and well angulated shoulder. Not quite the clean action on the move as 1. 3, Atyeo & Taylor's Ravensett Cappuccino with Samelen.

NB 2/1 1, Welburn's Oshowa Love to Dream. This girl has a feminine head with eyes of correct colour. Good forequarters and decent upper arm. Straight front supported on well-shaped feet. Level topline and strong in loin and this coupled with well angulated hindquarters allowed her to drive off strongly when moving round the ring.

GB 2/1 1, Ridsill's Sharnyx She's So Pretty, lots to like about this o/b. Head of good proportions and with correct stop and slightly rounded eye. Strong neck into well placed shoulder. Good bone to forelegs & correct pastern made for a super front with correct upper arm. Firm, level topline & close coupled with strong loin. Attractively angulated hindquarters and short in hock. She lacks a little in muscle and if this is fully developed, will improve her even further.

PGB 10/2 1, Buckley's Fishwick Fortune Cookie. This tricolour is so elegant and with a head of lovely proportions and a dark eye making for a melting expression. Strong muscular neck of good length and making a good union with her topline through well placed shoulder and return of upper arm. Her topline is spot on level, well bodied and deep in brisket. She possesses hindquarters of pleasing angulation. Sound on the move. There is no exaggeration with this girl and I was pleased to award her BB. 2, Welburn's Oshowa Dream Come True, b/b with a pleasing head & pleasing square foreface, eye of good shape and colour. Muscular neck on good forehand. Correct bone and neat rounded feet. Hindquarters of good angulation from which she moved well. 3, Prest's Caleydene Comet.

MLB 5/0 1, Jennings-Sharman & Sharman's Wansleydale Mayfly with Canteris, tricolour bitch of good proportions. Good head with dark eye and a lovely expression. She is in hard condition and possesses a muscular neck on a well made forehand. Her loin is muscular and arched which adds to her close coupled frame. Her well angulated quarters accentuate her overall pleasing balance. Sound on the move as she drove round the ring. 2, Stubbington's Quensha's Viva la Vida Bondgate. Very well presented girl with good head & sweet expression. A quality forehand set off by her strong neck. She has a short coupled frame with a level topline and

attractive hindquarters of good angulation. A shame she wasn't happy standing for her handler today. 3, Dykes' Caleydene Connexion.

LB 6/2 1, Tucker's Walshaw Center Stage, o/b, soft expression on a pleasing feminine head that carries the darkest of eyes. Good forehead and deep in brisket. Well placed shoulder and decent topline. She has a well ribbed frame and is short in loin. Moved well off sound hindquarters. 2, Seaman's Mariglen Villanelle, bb&t. Good head with correct ear placement and flew. Strong neck o non good forehead. Deep in brisket and well shaped hindquarters. Just preferred the topline of 1. 3, McCabe's Rachdale Ribbons of Pearls.

OB 4/1. 1, Williams' Sh. Ch. Bournehouse Guilty Secret. A tricolour girl of good proportion with level topline. Muscular neck on good shoulder, correct rib on short-coupled frame with strong loin. Well bent rear angulation and short in hock. 2. Tucker's Walshaw Save the Last Dance, a b/b girl with lovely expression on head with pleasing foreface. Strong neck and well placed shoulders. Correct topline and hindquarters of good angulation, moved well. 3, Whiting & Grant's Ir. Sh. Ch. Tattersett Frankel's Storm at Ormstiga.

SBB 4/1 1, Prest's Caleydene Comet, 2, Hoskin's Scillysett One Vision, 3, Kemp-Taylor's Quensha's Strawberry Swing.

Judge: Andy Swannell