

Somerset Hills Kennel Club, Inc.

Supported by The Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club Of America

Saturday 09th September 2023

Judge: Gary Nicholson (Ballindona)

I would like to thank the officers and committee of the North East Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club for inviting me to judge at this prestigious show, also thank my ring steward who made the ring run smoothly for me. Thank you to all the exhibitors for bringing your dogs under me to give an opinion & taking my decisions sportingly which made for a super show with great atmosphere although the humidity and heat made it almost unbearable at times. When I go over a dog, I am looking for virtues not faults, if a dog has faults which they all do, the severity of the fault is taken into consideration when evaluating the whole specimen. The dogs with what I considered were the most virtuous on the day were placed accordingly.

It is fair to say that dentition on the whole could be better, I had some with missing teeth, and a couple that looked like filed down canines, a couple of wry mouths and an undershot (Breeders take note "Complete Scissor Bite"). I also had a few with dirty teeth, I will say no more on mouths in this critique. Quite a lot of exhibits were not as fit as they could be, rear movement was close and sometimes crossing. I know it's sometimes difficult but concrete work is essential for hardness. Exercise is key to good health and coat. On the plus side breed type is very good as was front movement.

Dogs

SBT. Puppy, 9 & under 12months Dog (1,0a)

1. Jenn Irwin & Tatiana Lhor: **No.31 Nightguards Pendragon** Standard sized black/brindle who stood alone, good head shape, skull/muzzle ratio correct with good placed neat ears, round eyes, open nares, giving a nice typical puppy expression, good fore-chest & depth of brisket at this stage, up on pasterns, good width and depth of ribcage for a puppy, level topline stacked and moving, moved ok, handled well.

SBT. 12 & Under 18months Dogs (1,0a)

1. Gamalier Felicie: **No.19 Narkya Daredevil** Standard sized black/brindle with white front, another that stood alone. Put down in good condition, good head-shape with broad skull, deep through with good under-jaw, neat enough ears, dark eye, open nares. giving a nice Stafford expression, tidy fronted dog with tight feet turning out as they should showing good pasterns, ribbing up nicely, short coupled, tidy backend and level topline stacked and moving, moved ok and handled ok once he settled.

SBT. Bred by Exhibitor, 6 & under 12months dogs (2,0a)

1. Joe & Maria Bowie & Luciana McCoullough: **No.29 Bullwark Hard To Stop** Standard sized Black/brindle with a little white on chest, very typey, good headpiece, neatest of ears, would like a darker eye, good stop, skull/muzzle ratio correct, clean lipped, open nares, good under-jaw, tidy front with good fore-chest. Nicely ribbed for age, good angulations front and rear, carried tail correctly, moved well both ways. Handled well. **Reserve Winners Dog**
2. Toni Pawson Amy & Bruce Rounsaville: **No.37 Manorview's Captain Fantastic** Standard sized red dog with white bib and front socks, nice headpiece with white flash, dark eye, longer in muzzle than 1st, alert expression, tidy front, good fore-chest, up on pasterns, nice rib, level topline stacked and on the move, short coupled, good rear quarters, moved and handled well, preferred the neater ears, shorter muzzle & overall balance of 1st at this stage of development. 2 nice youngsters.

SBT. Bred by Exhibitor, 12months and over dog (2,1a)

1. Michael Filippello & Linda Rodriguez: **No.7 Freystaffs Ride The Lightning** Standard sized Black/brindle with White Blaze on chest who stood alone, good head shape, skull to muzzle ratio correct, neat rose ears, round dark eyes, Open nares, giving a typical Stafford expression, good fore-chest & depth of brisket, up on pasterns, good width and depth of ribcage, short coupled, Slopes off a little at the croup, moved ok handled well.

SBT. American Bred dog (2,0a)

1. Amy Conrad: **No.39 Sublime Ciera Purple Dragon TKN VHMA VSWB** Standard sized black/brindle and two white dots on chest, good head shape, neat enough ears, eyes could be a little darker, good skull to muzzle ratio, open nares, clean in lip, good underjaw, great keen expression, ample fore-chest, deep brisket, good front and rear angulations, enough rib, short coupled, level topline stacked and moving, good bend to stifle, good set-on of tail, moved and handled well. **Winners dog**
2. Jason & Shabray Mathreus & Judith Heller: **No.43 Moonstruck Meet Me At The Alibi** Black/brindle dog with white on chest, nice head-shape, deep through, good typical expression, nice ear carriage, eyes could be darker, good front with tight feet, well ribbed, good rear quarters, good tail set, preferred the movement of 1st today.

SBT. Open dog (2,1a)

1. Haliagh Mansfield & Maryanne Mack DVM & Berna: **No.49 Pebwin From Scratch** Standard sized red with white blaze another that stood alone, typical typey head shape, wide and deep through, neat ears, dark round eyes, good skull muzzle ratio, would have liked cleaner flews (lips), strong under-jaw, giving an intense expression,

good fore-chest, good front and rear angulation, up on pasterns, strong neck, well off for rib, short in coupling, good bend to stifle, hocks well let down, good tail carriage, Moved better coming than going.

Bitches

SBT. 12 & Under 18months Bitches (1,0a)

1. Gadiel Felicie: **No.46 T'Rivers-Of-Babylon De Karysha** Top sized Black/brindle With white blaze on chest, Stood alone, Nice feminine head, ears a bit flighty, well placed dark round eyes, good underjaw, open nares, nice skull to muzzle ratio, Clean front, tight feet, ribbing up nicely at this stage, short in coupling, would like a tad more bend in stifle, rear quarters require a little more exercise. Good tail set, moved ok handled well.

SBT. Bred by Exhibitor, 6 & under 12months Bitches (5,1a)

1. Luciana McCullough: **No.26 Bullwark A Girl Can Mack** Standard sized black brindle, great head shape, wide skull, deep through, well placed neat ears, large round dark eyes leading to a look at me expression, stood on straight columns with tight feet, up on pasterns and turned slightly out as they should be. Nice rib for one so young, short coupled, good angulation front and rear, good tail carriage, moved ok, handled well. I liked this puppy bitch a lot.
2. Jenn Irwin & Denise DeAcosta: **No.58 Bonnair N Eclips Love Her Madly** Black/brindle white front and collar, white flash on head and muzzle, strong headed bitch, wide skull, deep through, dark round eyes, open nares, good under-jaw, typical expression, good front, deep brisket, ribbing up nicely, level topline, short coupled, good rear angulation, move better coming than going. I preferred the overall balance and show presence of 1st
3. Jenn Irwin & Denise DeAcosta: **No.24 Bonnair N Eclips It's Just A Kiss Away** Litter sister to 2nd with very similar flashy markings, similar head to 2nd but narrower in front, behind the collar very similar to the second just preferred the width and slightly shorter coupling of 2nd

SBT. Bred by Exhibitor, 12months and over Bitches (1,0a)

1. Mary Phalon & Jessica Yeagle: **No.32 Nocturne Midnight Sun** Brindle & White bitch, stood alone, put down in super condition, clean feminine head shape, neat ears, dark round eyes, clean in lip, strength in under-jaw with good masseter Muscles (Cheek Bumps), leading to an intense expression demanding attention, beautiful front, strong neck, leading into well placed shoulders, nicely ribbed for her age, short coupled, level topline stacked and on the move, good well-muscled hams on a well angulated back end, Moved and handled well. Well-deserved **Winners bitch & Best Of Winners**

SBT. American Bred Bitch (2,0a)

1. Elizabeth Huhn & Linda Rodriguez: **No.22 Freystaffs Beautiful Crazy** Standard sized black/brindle bitch with tiny bit of white on chest, feminine head, good skull/muzzle ratio, with neat ears, dark round eyes clean in lip, open nares, leading to a look at me expression, good front columns onto tight feet, up on pasterns, well ribbed, short coupled, would have liked a tad more stifle but rear end ok, good tail carriage, moved better coming than going. **Reserve winners bitch**
2. Maddy Eckel: **No.44 Sublime Ceira Wildflowers** Standard sized black/brindle with a little white on chest, strong feminine headpiece, good skull/muzzle ratio, ears ok but could be neater, dark eyes, open nares, typical expression, good width to front, on strong columns, deep brisket, well ribbed good angulations front and rear. Would like to see this dog a lot fitter the rear quarters need building up, moved ok handled well.

SBT. Open Bitch (4,1a)

1. Colleen Bragg & Dion Berry & Jodie West: **No.52 Willaby's 19 Crimes FCAT TKN** Black/brindle dog with small splash of white on chest, Nice feminine headpiece, neatest of ears, dark round eyes, open nares, skull/muzzle ratio correct, strong under-jaw, typical intense expression, good fore-chest, deep brisket, straight front, strong neck into well placed shoulders, well ribbed, short enough coupling, good rear quarters. Moved ok handled well.
2. Linda Ringle, Jane McMillan & Jessica Yeagle: **No.16 Nocturne Poetry In Motion At Brewlin** Black/br with white on chest, Similar attributes to 1st just a bit narrower in front and a tad longer in back. Moved better coming than going.
3. Gamalier Felicia: **No.48 Felistaff's Red Nala** Standard Sized red bitch with white bib on chest with white socks, Strong in head, old style Stafford slightly longer in muzzle, neat enough ears on wide skull, deep through, dark round eye, old Stafford expression, strong under-jaw, cobby in front, well off for rib, Short coupled, good rear quarters, moved better going away than coming, handled well. Preferred front and femininity of 2nd.

Best of Breed Competition (25,0a)

SBT. Best Of Breed

Monica McGrew: **No.51 GCH Pinnacle's Keyser Soze** Black/Brindle & white on chest. This dog walked into the ring like he owned it, he stood four-square, his expression captivated me. I could write a book on this guy, in my eyes he fits the standard in every department, nothing over exaggerated, nothing underdone either, the whole dog balanced as it should be, clean head, dark enough eyes, strong under-jaw, beautiful front on tight feet, well ribbed up, short in coupling, good rear angulation, looked superb in profile, topline hardly budged on the move, there is an obvious bond between him and his handler, his movement had drive from the rear and parallel front and back. He was turned out in great condition and is a credit to his owner/breeder, it was a real pleasure just to put my hands on him. He is a dog I would love to own. **BOB**

SBT. Best Opposite Sex

Judy Heller & Linda Lavender: **No.28 CH Irresistable Moonstruck C'mere Till I Tell Ya CGC TKI** Red bitch with a little white on chest, A lot to like about this bitch too, one of the smaller bitches but everything in the right place, lovely feminine head-shape with black mask, neat enough ears, round dark eyes, open nares, nice strong under-jaw, pleasing expression, great pigmentation, tidy front, tight feet, good width and depth of brisket, well ribbed, short coupled, strong backend, moved with drive & handled well.

SBT. Select Dog

J & L Caswell: **No.17 GCHS CH Wavemaker Nonesuch TT DN CGCA CGCU TKN VHMA VSWB FITG** Quality Black/brindle dog with a smidge of white on chest and front toes, strong in head width and depth, good skull/muzzle ratio, neatest of ears, dark round eyes, open nares, another that screamed look at me with his expression, tidy front with good width and deep brisket, well boned, strong neck, good angulations front & Rear, level topline which held on the move, nice bend of stifle with hocks well let down, looked beautiful in profile, with no exaggerations', moved with drive from the rear, moved a tiny bit closer at the front, Another I would love in my Kennel.

SBT. Select Bitch

Jodie & Dion Berry: **No.50 GCH Willaby's Sothern Cross TKN** Quality black/brindle bitch with white on chest, top sized but balanced with it, well boned and in good condition, strong headed with width and depth of skull although still feminine, neat ears, round eyes that are a tad light, defined stop, open nares, good front and fore-chest, tight feet, deep brisket, strong in neck, well placed shoulders, nicely ribbed up, good angulations front and rear, level topline stacked and moving, good tail set and carriage, moved & handled well. Over-all a tidy bitch deserving her placing.

SBT. Best Owner Handled and Award Of Merit

Amy N Johnson & Tim Johnson: **No.45 GCHS CH Takedowns Not Happenin Imar CA FCAT** Another quality Black/Brindle dog with white on chest, strong in head with width and depth, good skull/muzzle ratio, neat ears, round eyes that could be darker, open nares, typical Stafford stare expression, good front with enough width and deep brisket, strong neck, good angulations front & Back, level topline which held on the move, nice bend of stifle with good 1st and second thigh muscles, moved ok handled very well, you could see the bond he has with his handler. Another deserving of his placing.

SBT. Award Of Merit

Cassie Gatliff: **No.47 CH Homebrewed Tuned For Torque BCAT** good quality black/brindle with white on chest, well off for bone, strong head, wide & Deep with strong under-jaw, good skull/muzzle ratio, neat ears, dark round eyes, distinct stop, open nares, alert expression, tidy front, up on pasterns, nice rib, level topline stacked and on the move, short coupled, good rear quarters, moved with drive and handled well, another deserving of award

SBT. Award Of Merit

Jane Lasher & Linda Ringle: **No.12 CH Brave Spirit Etta James RATO BCAT** another quality well put together dark brindle dog, Cracking headpiece, good width to skull and deep through, good skull muzzle ratio, neatest of rose ears, dark eyes, distinct stop with good under-jaw, open nares, with a pleasing expression, good bone density, nice fore-chest and depth of brisket, good front on tight feet, strong neck leading into well placed shoulders, well ribbed up, short coupled with a level topline, good rear end, moved & handled well. Good luck for the future.

Gary Nicholson (Ballindona)

P.S I personally want to thank Coutney Motylinski for taking great care of me before, during and after the show, the running around you did for all the judges was amazing and very much appreciated.

To all the committee for all your hard work for organisation of the whole weekend, the club evenings out and at the Hotel were great, thank you so much for giving us a great time, I have made some good friends and I wish you all at the club all the best for the future.