

COLLIE CLUB OF NSW CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

CRITIQUE

Judge: Leslie Tanks

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the NSW Collie Club and its members for giving me the opportunity to judge your lovely breed. Collies have always been a love of mine, just a step behind my beloved shelties.

The weather was very kind to everyone on the day except for a few short periods which we managed to get through without much difficulty. The facilities and the grounds were first rate.

I appreciated the hospitality and friendliness extended to me, both by the exhibitors and also by the President, Secretary and Committee members of the club.

I would also like to comment on the sportsmanship of the winners and the other exhibitors; the applause for all concerned was both generous and sportsmanlike.

As to the collies, I was a little concerned at the lack of depth in quality, especially in the dogs, but it was pleasing to see some very promising youngsters coming along whom I'm sure will make their mark in the ring in the near future.

No collie is perfect and generally the faults that one finds, can be found in collies all over the world, but here in Sydney I was certainly concerned with the foreign head type that I found on some exhibits and the lack of stop. The standard does state, skull and muzzle to be of equal length and I found quite a lot of exhibits to have a length of muzzle which would measure a lot more than an equal length.

COLLIE SMOOTH

BABY PUPPY DOG

1. **Bagilodge Upon Request** (M Bester & B & L Ryan) -
A very young baby of approximately four months, appearing at his very first show. He had a lovely well proportioned head, correctly placed eye which gave him a true collie expression. Moved like a veteran. A very promising baby.

JUNIOR DOG

1. **Milbalind Mesmerizer** (S & J Stoney) - For me a very strong youngster in type and a little on the tall side, however, he was very well constructed and when behaving himself moved with purpose and drive. – RES CC
2. **Milbalind Lucky Buster** (J. McIntyre) –
Another very strong youngster both in type and size and it did not surprise me to find that these were litter brothers. Head was lacking stop and therefore gave quite a harsh expression, body was well angulated and he moved well.

INTERMEDIATE DOG

1. **Ch Colligate Im Galileo** (S. Henderson) -
Nice type with good head properties and a great body outline. Would have liked a better forearm angulation and was moving quite close behind. In good coat.

AUST. BRED DOG

1. **Ch Ellyar Breath O Heaven** (C Moffat) –

Nice type with good head properties which were spoilt a little by a wider ear placement than I would have liked. A little short in upper arm which resulted in a short and choppy front movement.
Very proud of his tail on the day.

OPEN DOG

1. Ch Baqilodge Quiver N Arrow (B & L Ryan) –
This dog took my eye as soon as he entered the ring; he had a lovely head and expression with a lovely dark eye. Well placed and correctly sized ears which he used at every opportunity. Nice length of neck with well laid back shoulders. He was a good mover both coming and going and all in all he presented a very pleasing picture. Although he had a lovely lovely top coat he was lacking in undercoat on the day. He was prepared and handled excellently. CC DOG
2. Sandcastles Trust Money (Imp Finland) (D Knox & A Irwin) – Quite a nice type of collie with pleasing head and expression.
Good neck and top line but fell away over the croup. He moved quite well going away but could have been a bit more positive in front. In good coat.

BABY BITCH

1. Foxbell Finnished Neatly (S. Henderson) –
Nice type with a very sweet expression. She was a bit longer in foreface that I would have liked but with the correct eye and ear placement, she presented a pleasing picture. Her angulation was good and she had a nice long neck, good top line and tail carriage. She moved a bit loosely in front but she is very young and this should tighten with age.

PUPPY BITCH

1. Collegate Ms Money Penny (D Knox) -
A very glamorous well balanced youngster with a nice head but could have had a better shaped eye. Lovely outline with a super long neck. She had good bone and substance but front forequarters could have been a little better angulated although she moved well both coming and going. She was in good coat which was of excellent texture. Groomed and handled to perfection.

INTERMEDIATE BITCH

1. Collegate Im Stardust (S & J Stoney) -
Pleasing head but would have preferred a better shaped eye.
Good neck but failed in top line which fell away over the croup. She moved quite well going away but could have been a bit more positive in front. Excellent coat.

AUSTRALIAN BRED BITCH

1. Ch Jedford Surrender (S Dally) –
A very nice tri bitch who unfortunately she did not want to give of her best on this particular day. Nice body and bone with a good top line and tail carriage. Nicely moulded head with correct ear placement and a very good mover. Good coat and presented and handled extremely well. – RES CC.
2. Ch Eridor Sway Me Smooth (J Witt) -
Quite a nice type of collie with pleasing head and expression. Failed in ears which were quite small although she used them very well. Good neck and top line but fell away over the croup. She moved quite well going away but could have been a bit more positive in front. Handled and presented excellently.

OPEN BITCH

1. Ch Jedford Call To Duty (J Smith) -

Another very typey collie that just lacked in the neck department. Despite this she was very well balanced with a lovely outline. Head proportions were good but a little light in eye. Ears could have been better but she used them at every opportunity.

Because of her correct structure she moved well, both coming and going. Good texture of coat and in excellent condition. CC BITCH

VETERAN 7/10 YEARS

1. Ch Jedford Esprit De Corps (C Moffat) -

A lovely veteran of 7 years but carrying a little weight and because of this her top line was a little soft. Lovely type with good head and expression. Construction was good and because of this she moved well both coming and going. Another one with a good textured coat.

COLLIE ROUGH

BABY PUPPY DOG

1. Swinbrad Maican Waves (V & D Morris) -

A very mature tri colour baby with a very sweet expression. Lovely head with correct eye and ear placement, he presented a pleasing picture. His angulation was good and he had a nice long neck, good top line and tail carriage, and he moved well both coming and going. He was also a great little showman on the day.

MINOR PUPPY DOG

1. Kazjs Winter Ice Lord (J & C Mulcahy) -

Another youngster who presented well. A merle that was a little dark in colour. He was very well balanced with a lovely outline. Head proportions were good but a little round in eye. Ears were set high on the head and he used them at every opportunity. Because of his correct structure he moved well, both coming and going.

2. Cathkin Im So Special (G Jones) -

He was very well balanced with a lovely outline. Nice coloured tri but tan could have been darker. Head proportions were good and ears were set high on the head and he used them very well. Lovely bone and excellent body proportions and moved well both coming and going.

3. Burdekin Boy O Boy (G Grant) -

Another lovely collie that was presented and shown in top class condition. A little short in upper arm and therefore could not reach as he should. Good head with a well placed eye which was reflected by his sweet expression. In good coat and handled excellently.

JUNIOR DOG

1. Naywe Rite Bfore Ur Eyes (S Frankland) -

A golden sable/white collie with a lovely head and expression and nice dark eye. Well placed and correctly sized ears which he used at every opportunity. Nice length of neck with well laid back shoulders. He was a little longer in the leg that I would like but he is just over 12 months in age and when he matures and his chest drops this should improve. He was a good mover both coming and going and all in all he presented a very pleasing picture. Although he had a long, harsh top coat he was lacking in undercoat on the day. He was prepared and handled excellently.

2. Cathkin Xtrordinaire (J Bowden) -

Although his head properties were correct he was very fine in the muzzle and this combined with ears that were too large caused his expression to lack the sweetness that your lovely breed is noted for. He had good bone and substance but front forequarters could have been better angulated but he moved well both coming and going. He was groomed and handled well.

INTERMEDIATE DOG

1. Swinbrad Do It By Knight (V & D Morris) –

A tri colour that caught my eye as he came into the ring. Correct proportions of head with a nice shaped eye but I felt he lacked stop and this gave him a somewhat harsh expression. He was of excellent breed type and correct size with a good length of body and excellent bone. He had a nice neck and correctly angulated shoulders and excellent hindquarters and therefore he was able to move so very gracefully but with purpose and drive. Presented and handled excellently.

2. Ch Burdekin Buzz Lightyear (G Grant) -

Another very nice, sable and white collie. Very well balanced dog of good body proportions, with good top line and slope over the croup.. He had excellent head proportions but would have preferred a more almond shaped eye. . Good top line but fell away over the croup which was causing his body to roll slightly. He had a nice long neck, but, he had a lot of coat over the neck area which gave the impression of having a short neck, which was not so. He was in excellent coat and condition. All in all, a very pleasing picture. I would have liked a bit more animation from this dog as I felt he really did not want to be here on this day. Groomed and handled to perfection.

3. Black Gary Le Marbre Bleu (Imp Finland) (G Jones & S Powers)

Blue merle dog with a very pleasing head but a somewhat smaller eye and ears. Lacking a little in bone and substance, he looked a little long in body but as he was totally out of coat, this contributed to that factor. Lovely length of neck and good shoulders, moved well both coming and going.

AUSTRALIAN BRED DOG

1. Ch Kazjs Sir Spense (J & C Mulcahy) -

A lovely shaded sable and white male who caught my eye as soon as he came into the ring. He has a lovely head and eye which combined to give a sweetness of expression. He had a lovely long well arched neck and correct front shoulders, combined with a good top line, correct slope over the croup and a nice long tail. He moved correctly around the ring as though it was his own and was a pleasure to observe. Unfortunately when it came to general specials time, he was very unsettled and unsure of himself. – DOG CC.

2. Ch Vedamea Heir Ov Fantasy (S Frankland) -

Another nice collie with a good head, ears, but a bit smaller eye than I like and this was reflected in his expression. Unfortunately today he was a little overweight and this was reflected in his movement.

3. Kollylock Fully Charged (N Dewley) -

He had an excellent head and expression, somewhat shorter in neck than I would like. Topline was good and he moved well, both coming and going. I had the feeling that this one did not want to be at this particular show on this particular day as he was very neglect to use his ears. Another one out of coat on the day.

OPEN DOG

1. Ch Cathkin Caldly (G Jones) -

Shaded Sable dog that was very well balanced with good body proportions, level top line and slope over the croup. He had excellent head proportions.. He used his ears well but they could have had a better tip. He was correctly angulated with a nice long neck. Not in the best of coats although what he had was in good condition and of correct texture. I just wanted a little more from this boy but he only gave a little of himself today. – RES. CC.

2. Ch Cathkin Diamond Eye (S.Gilbert) –
8 year old tri colour who is certainly a credit to his owner. Correct size and good collie type but had a rather small eye and this contributed to a rather harsh expression. Good length of body and correct top line, well angulated and moved well.
3. Albermayne River Dance (P Worthington) -
Another nice collie who had a lovely head and expression and used his ears well. I found his length of upper arm to be a bit short which inhibited his freedom of movement and flexibility. He had a lovely length of neck and good topline with the correct slope over the croup. In excellent coat. Presented, groomed and handled well.

BABY PUPPY BITCH

1. Mirriyuula Juz Again (T & A Jenkins) -
Lovely coloured blue merle bitch, who excelled in type and soundness and as one would expect, moved with purpose and drive. Ultra feminine with the correct head properties, well placed eye and ears which combined to give her a melting expression. In good coat which was of harsh texture. Presented and handled well.
2. Mirriyuula Juice Me (M & P Brooks) -
Sable/White feminine bitch of good type and soundness. She had excellent head proportions and she uses her correctly placed ears well. However, I would have liked a bit more animation from this exhibit. I just felt that the winner had a softer expression.
3. Stormypine Summer Rain (R Hardy) -
A little over three months, this lovely tri colour was giving away a little in age to the first two. She was teething badly and hence her ears were tending to fly a little. Nicely balanced pup with good angulation, nice long neck, good topline and tail carriage, and she moved well both coming and going.

MINOR PUPPY BITCH

1. Cathkin Wink Na Smile (G Jones) –
This was an absolutely gorgeous little minor puppy, so totally feminine and captivating. She had a lovely correct head and ears and an expression to die for. She had a nice neck fitting into well laid back front shoulders and had unusually strong hindquarters for one so young. I would perhaps prefer her to have a bit more length of body. By my dates in the catalogue, she has not long been in this class but she handled the ring like an old timer and was a credit to her owner. She was well coated, groomed and handled to perfection.
2. Cathkin Sheer Charisma (G Jones) –
Another nice youngster from the same kennel as the first place winner, however, not such a good tricolour as I would have liked. A lovely head with correct head planes, well shaped eye giving her the correct expression. Nice body shape and although she was a little straight in front shoulder, she still moved quite well. Not in the show condition of her sister.
3. Vedamea A Lil Sin Sation (B & L Ryan) -

Another promising youngster, however, today I found her to be up on size, for me, at this age and rather a strong type, lacking femininity. Nice length of neck, good shoulder angulation. Moved soundly and with drive.

PUPPY BITCH

1. Mirriyuula Oopsa Daisy (T & A Jenkins) –
Another nice youngster but who needed to be a little more settled on the day, but I am sure that this will come with time. Lovely head and expression with correct body length and was down to size, good angulation and although she played around a little on the move, when she decided to go, she did it right.

JUNIOR BITCH

1. Jambarlas Chantilli Lace (J Bowden) -
A blue merle collie of good quality who was a showgirl. Although her head properties were correct she was a little fine in the muzzle department at this stage, but this could fill out with age. Good bone and substance but a little steep in upper arm, however, she still moved well and with purpose.
2. Cathkin Watta Sensation (J Bowden) -
Nice sable and white who pushed the first place winner. A lovely head with correct head planes, well shaped eye giving her the correct expression. Nice body and bone but she had rather a soft top line.
3. Kollylock Que Sera Sera (N Dewley) -
Another nice collie but who was a little on the big side for me and was also quite strong in head, not as feminine as I would like. Having said that, she was soundly constructed and had a long arched neck fitting into well proportioned shoulders. Good bone, top line and correct slope over the croup. Moved well coming and going.

INTERMEDIATE BITCH

1. Swinbrad Jamaica Fantasy (V & D Morris) - This lovely blue merle caught my eye as soon as she came into the ring. Although badly lacking coat on the day, she did everything right and was a pleasure to judge. She has a head of stronger proportions than I would like and this combined with eyes that were not quite as dark as they could be, distracted a little from her expression, however she had the correct shaped almond eyes with well placed ears which she used at every opportunity. She had a lovely arched neck which blended into well proportioned shoulders, great level top line and correct length of tail. She moved with grace and purpose and correct drive from the hindquarters. All in all she was a lovely collie, who never stopped showing on the day she was almost a stalker, but coat does not make a collie, it only adds to the glamour of the breed and even without coat, she was a clear winner of this class on the day. RES CC.
2. Ch Kazjs Rumor Has It (J & C Mulcahy) –
Another quality collie but who was also stronger in breed type that I would like, I would have liked better head proportions but all in all she presented a very nice picture and responded to her owner's every command. Nicely balanced bitch with a good outline and bone. Good body and moved well.
3. Ch Barcoo Taleoftwocities (B Hales) -
An excellent quality sable/white collie who I found was lacking in head properties and this was reflected in her expression. Good body proportions and was well balanced overall. In good coat which was of correct texture. Good size, handled and shown to perfection.

AUSTRALIAN BRED BITCH

1. **Ch Burdekin Beyond My Love (G Grant)** – Here again, was another lovely sable/white, six years of age, presented and shown in excellent condition. Correct size and good breed type with correct head, ears and eye but lacking stop which was reflected somewhat in her expression. Nice outline and although visually she appeared to be a little soft in top line, this wasn't so on examination. Good length of body but perhaps could do with a little more neck but was well angulated and moved well. This collie was presented immaculately and handled superbly. BITCH CC
2. **Mirriyuula Juz Truly Blu (T & A Jenkins)** – Blue merle of good quality, although lacking a little bone and substance. Nice body with a good top line and tail carriage. Nicely moulded head with correct ear placement and a very good mover. Good coat, presented and handled extremely well.
3. **Cathkin Zoe Gilbert (S Gilbert)** - Lovely collie type but fails a little in head property by having too much stop and a roundish eye and these two things combined, resulted in a somewhat harsh expression. Nice outline with a long neck, moved quite well coming and going.

OPEN BITCH

1. **Kollylock Going Places (N Dewley)** - Feminine blue merle with a nice head and eye and good ears which contributed to her lovely expression. She was very well constructed with excellent shoulder placement and good hindquarters and was an excellent moving girl. Unfortunately, she was badly out of coat on the day.
2. **Stormypine Highland Snow (R Hardy & J Tuttle)** - Another nice merle with very rich tan markings. She had a very pleasing head and eye; however, she was trying very hard not to have a pricked ear. Excellent bone and substance. A well balanced girl with good top line. Moved well.
3. **Ch Sunnyhurst Shaded Blue (Imp UK) (J Bowden)** - Correct body proportions but would have liked her to have a bit more substance and bone. Failed in ears which were a little short and this detracted from her otherwise sweet expression. A nice mover coming and going.

VETERAN 7/10 YRS BITCH

1. **Gr. Ch Cherrylea Vision N Black (B Hales)** - 8 year old tri colour in excellent condition. She had a typical collie expression enhanced by her well set ears, good head planes. A well balanced collie with good top line and nice fall over the croup and moved well both coming and going. In good coat which was of correct texture.
2. **Albermayne Shadow Gold (P Worthington)** – 8 year old sable/white that was also in great condition. Excellent type and correct size. Well placed correctly shaped eye and good expression. she had a good neck, top line and tail carriage, soundly constructed and consequently moved well. In good coat.
3. **Stormypine Snow Dancer (R Hardy)** – 10 year old blue merle who was obviously her Mum's favourite as her waist line had expanded somewhat. Lovely type with good head and expression. Well balanced and moved adequately. A very showy girl and very attentive to her handler.

I hope that this critique will be accepted in the vein that it is given, constructive and not destructive. These are only my opinions from the days judging.

Once again, I thank you all for giving me the honour of judging your dogs.

Leslie Tanks.