

NEFRA Critique - Bitches

2nd November 2025

I would like to thank the NEFRA Committee for inviting me to judge at their Championship Show. I thoroughly enjoyed my day. Also, a big thank you to my stewards – Glynn and Stephen.

The majority of dogs were shown in excellent condition, however, movement was a big concern to me. Some exhibits looked superb standing but were then let down by their movement.

My Co-judge & I agreed on all the top awards.

BIS – Thurgood & Holmes Finhamspride Clio

RBIS & BOS – Wild Bitcon Alliance With Bluewaters (AI) JW

BPIS – Walkers Seaheart Frida at Gloi JW

BVIS – Whitaker Sh Ch Evening Mist Black Brianta (IMP CZE)

Best Liver – Sullivan Wyrebeck Shockwave

Best Special Working – Peers Tweedisle Lindores

Veteran Bitch (6, 2 abs)

1. Whitaker's Sh Ch Evening Mist Black Brianta (IMP CZE) a well presented bitch of 7 years. Pretty head with a good reach of neck. Lovely eye shape. She is a lovely shape, with excellent length of upper arm. Well muscled. Level topline which was held on the move. Moved straight and true. BVIS
2. Milton's Manteauplat Black Pippin, another 7 year old who pushed the winner. She is well balanced and was shown in good coat. Deep chest and good feet. Moved OK.
3. Smitherman's Sh Ch Seaheart Cecilia JW, slightly heavier bitch. Shown in good coat. She is very well balanced. Beautiful head and good reach of neck with leads to a good layback of shoulder. Lost out on movement today.

Special Veteran Bitch (1)

1. Holmes' Ch Wiccanssage Virtue at Rydanah SGWC, love this girl. She is in great condition for her age. She has good length of upper arm and is well muscled throughout. She moved OK but could not match the Veteran Bitch today in the challenge for BV Bitch.

Minor Puppy Bitch (8)

A lovely class of minor puppies.

1. Lawrinson's Blacklake Sapphire Sparkle, a pretty black bitch who headed up this lovely minor puppy class. 7 months and very well balanced for her age. Lovely soft flatcoat expression. She has good length of upper arm which showed in her movement. Shown in gleaming coat. Stood well and moved steadily.
2. Bellamys' Moonstruck I'm On Fire With Moontorn (Imp SWE), 7 month dark liver bitch. She has a very pretty head with a good eye colour. Lovely reach of neck. Not overdone in any way. She is well muscled for her age. Good bone and tight feet. Moved OK when settled.
3. Peers' Tweedisle Lindores Sezar, a real baby but so much to like. She has a pretty head, good reach of neck leading to OK shoulders. Neat feet and good

bone. Another puppy not overdone in anyway. Level topline held on the move. I look forward to seeing her develop.

Puppy Bitch (8, 1 w/d)

1. Walker and Roberts' Seaheart Frida at Gloi JW, a lovely puppy with good shape that stood out in the class. She has a very pretty head, kind expression and dark eye. Very well balanced for her age and a good depth of chest. She has correct front and rear angulation. Well muscled. Good bone and neat feet. Level topline. Good tail set. Would prefer a little less weight on her but this did not detract from her overall quality. Good movement. BPB and I was thrilled that she went on to win BPIS.
2. Knight & Jacobs' Gemswin Chasing Rainbows, another lovely puppy with lots to like. Not quite as balanced as 1st. Preferred head of the winner. Adequate bone, neat feet. She is very much a baby at this stage and I look forward to seeing her develop.
3. Bellamy's Moontorn Chasing the Dream, another nice puppy to complete a lovely trio of puppies. She is very mature for age. Well balanced and good bone. Well muscled. Unfortunately, her eye could be darker and is slightly round which takes away some of the kind expression. She moves really well in profile but is not straight coming and going.

Junior Bitch (6, 2 abs)

1. Phipps-Baker & Baker's Maddouse Never To Much, really liked this young lady and she was close to top honours. She just went a bit flat in the challenge. Well moulded head with kind expression. Well set on ears. Good reach of neck leading to well laid back shoulders. Level topline. Good rear angulation without being over done. Moved well.
2. Whitakers' Jetstarki Run Like Hell JW, another lovely bitch. Showed with great enthusiasm. Everything in proportion, with good layback of shoulder and well muscled at the rear. Level topline. Did not move as well as 1st.
3. Mackessack-Leitch's Badcall Midwinter Dream at Inchstellie, slightly larger in the frame than 1 & 2. Shown in good coat and condition. Pretty head with good expression. Well muscled with level topline. Moved well driving from the rear.

Yearling Bitch (3)

1. Thurgood's Thurwitt Lyra Belacque, caught my eye as soon as she entered the ring. So well balanced, it looked like she could work all day. Well moulded head with kind expression. Good layback of shoulder. Correct amount of bone leading to neat feet. Moved very well.
2. Kulczycka's Everblack Euphoria, another nice bitch unlucky to meet 1 on such good form. Longer in the body and longer loin but still a lovely shape. Head ok, slightly round in the eye. Strong topline held when moving.
3. as 3rd in Junior

Novice Bitch (7, 1 w/d)

A difficult class to judge – all being at different stages of development.

1. Smitherman's Seaheart Fia, this young bitch is in great condition and was shown to perfection. Her movement was much improved in this class. She is well balanced and has good muscle tone. Not over-done in any way. She looks a picture when standing and has a level topline.
2. 1st in MP
3. Prior's Genswin Wherever I Lay My Hat at Finnashember, 15 month bitch, pretty head with dark eye. Layback of shoulder is OK. At this age not as balanced which affected her movement.

Graduate Bitch (4, 3 abs)

1. Hedges' Satinbaze Tranquil Sea, slightly broad in the head, dark well shaped eye. Longer in body than other winners. Good length of upper arm. Tight feet.

Post Graduate Bitch (9, 2abs)

1. Priors' Blacktoft Avelino at Finnashember, I have noticed this young bitch from the ringside and she did not disappoint. Well moulded head with neat ears. She is correct size, very well balanced and not exaggerated in any way. Moved really well in profile and coming and going. A pleasure to award her the RCC.
2. Walker & Roberts' Gloi Dubh Lady Muck JW, another lovely bitch, unlucky to meet 1st. Unfortunately was slightly out of coat. She has a very pretty head with a dark eye. Good angulation front and rear. Level topline. Did not move as positively as 1st today
3. Moxey's Dymexe My Cherie Amour JW, Really like this bitch but she had left her clothes at home. Very pretty head, lovely soft expression. She has good bone and neat tight feet. Not quite the angulation of 1st and 2nd but this did not stop her driving round the ring.

Limit Bitch (13, 3 abs)

A lovely class.

1. Thurgood & Holmes' Finhamspride Clio, super 4 year old bitch. Dark eye and the kindest of expressions. Correct size, correct layback of shoulder, strong level topline. Well muscled rear with a good second thigh. Ever wagging tail straight off her back. Loved her positivity on the move she just floated round the ring. Delighted to award her the BCC, and then with agreement of my co-judge BIS.
2. Smitherman's Seaheart Diva JW, slightly larger bitch but still so well balanced. Shown in good coat and very well presented. Good reach of neck, level topline held on the move. Good bone without being over done. Good length of rib and correct loin. Moved OK.
3. Sullivans' Wyrebeck Live Forever, smaller black bitch. Handled well. Another bitch with good front angulation, level topline and good tail set. Not as positive on the move as 1st and 2nd.

Open Bitch (5)

Lovely class with all the bitches having different attributes.

1. Orme's Hopevalley Morning Dream of Elmstock, good dark eye with neat ears. She is in proportion with adequate bone. Well presented with good length to height ratio. Holds herself well on the move which won her the class.
2. Bellamys' Sh Ch Moontorn Better Half of Me JW ShCEx OSW, another well presented bitch. Good reach of neck, leading to well placed shoulders. Level

- topline held on the move. Longer cast than 1st but had good spring of ribs and a short loin. Pushed 1st but unfortunately lost out on movement coming and going.
3. Thurgood's Thurwitt Tamara, lovely girl that had unfortunately left her coat at home. Loved her well moulded head and expression. I preferred the clean lines of 1st & 2nd. Well balanced with good muscular definition. Moved very well.

Champion Bitch (4)

1. Drottsgard's SWE/DK Ch Moonstruck Thinking Black, a lovely sized bitch with the correct amount of substance. She presents a lovely balanced outline. Her body is great breed type but I would prefer a more refined head. She moved the best in the class.
2. Fox's Ch. Blacktoft Dancing the Blues SGWC, pretty head with a good length of muzzle. Well presented. Not as balanced as 1st. Movement let her down today.
3. Finlay's Ir Sh Ch Blacktoft Veneza Aughinaleck a slight bitch but just not enough substance for me. Pretty head and good reach of neck. Not the balance of 1st and 2nd.

Special Beginners Bitch (6, 1abs)

1. Mackessack-Leitch, Badcall Midwinter Dream at Inchstellie 3rd in Junior
2. Turners' Angel Undercover Take my Breath Away (Imp FRA), lovely dark eye on this bitch. Pretty one piece head. Adequate bone but would like tighter feet. She is 3 years old still has to mature. Preferred the movement of 1.
3. Ramsbottom's Dronley Hazel at Rambowen, 2 year old liver bitch at the correct stage of development for age. Neat ears. Adequate bone. Coat OK.

Special Liver Bitch (3)

1. Bellamy's Moonstruck I'm On Fire With Moontorn (Imp SWE) 2nd MPB
2. Sullivan's Wyrebeck Shes My Surprise, a well balanced bitch. Good colour eye. Preferred the length of muzzle of 1st. Moved well.
3. Ramsbottom's Dronley Hazel at Rambowen 3rd in Special Beginners

Special Working Bitch (2)

1. Peers' Tweedisle Lindores, won this class on her positive movement. Lovely size, with good overall balance. Good bone. Tight feet. Level topline. Best Special Working in Show
2. Hewison's Benvellyn Marakele into Casblaidd JW SGWC, bitch with a pretty head. Not as balanced as my winner. Good coat. Movement let her down today.

Suzi Tagg