

LONDON COCKER SPANIEL SOCIETY
Championship Show 2012

I consider it a privilege to have been asked to judge at this show, where I had previously served as Chairman for a number of years, and I thank exhibitors for their support and my stewards for keeping things in order. There were some lovely dogs present and I was glad to have the opportunity to see them at close quarters. However, I am very concerned about the heads in the breed, in particular the particolours. In far too many cases the heads are coarse and lack quality, and some have sunken eyes or loose rims. Where is the lovely, frank, open, honest, almost smiling expression of the Cocker? Breeders should think carefully about their breeding programme; it is not always wise to follow the popular stud of the day. It did not go unnoticed that some handlers had heeded my words and resisted the temptation to run with their dogs. It is not a race! A brisk trot is the correct pace for the breed. The other point heeded was to allow the dog to stand in its natural, instead of artificially fixed, pose at the end of its individual move. A few achieved this with success, but other dogs just crumbled and seemed unable even to stand up unaided! Presentation over all was good as one would expect of exhibits at such a show. While handlers should encourage or control their charges with a few gentle words, there was far too much fussing and chattering to their dogs on the table. The show took place on the day following Richmond Weir's funeral and the influence of his Weirdene kennel on the breed as seen at this show was noteworthy.

Any Other Colour: Special PD (9,1): 1, Whitehead's Ryallcourt Jim Beam, light blue dog, compact and with big ribs, good body, well off for bone, a trifle heavy in head, good mover; 2, Pretty & Carpenter's Lynwater Belgian Chocolate, very promising liver roan with pleasing head, if slightly light in eye, good bone, lovely coat beautifully presented, using his tail with true Cocker character; 3, Mace's Lynwater Masquerade. **SpND (3):** 1, Gray's Sanmargra Replay and Rewind, lovely dark blue dog, with nice head, good ribs, body and bone, was splaying his hind movement, but with handler getting his action balanced and co-ordinated is one to watch for the future, heard later this gave him his JW; 2, Pop's Manacas Bring It On at Bocablue, well presented blue dog with balanced head, seemed a bit upright in shoulder, but moved steadily and happily; 3, Stapley &

Hill's Staplehill Soul Lover. **SpGD** (4,2): 1, Bond's Olibond Remember Me JW, mature blue roan with pleasing head, good bone, excellent ribs and body, coat in good order, could use more power in hindquarters; 2, Cassidy's Rojoys Little Star, blue roan of different type, nice head, compact in body, a bit upright in shoulder, in excellent coat, very merry. **SpOD** (7,1): 1, Raquin's Int. Sh. Ch. Weeping Willow's Daylami, orange roan dog of quality, lovely head and expression with correct oval skull, nice size, beautifully presented natural coat, moved well, pressed hard for top honours; 2, Reid's Sh. Ch. Shanaz Sporrán JW, has excellent bone, good ribs and body, sound mover, a real dog; 3, Pop's SV Ch. Manacas High On The Hog ShCM. **Solid Colour: SpPD** (7,2) 1, Bentley's Canigou Love Em and Leave Em, black with pleasing head and expression, compact in body, moved soundly, the most finished in the class, carrying tail a little high but not a problem at this age; 2, Holmes's Kenan Kumon, golden with nice dark eye, has good bone and is maturing nicely in body, has plenty of feather, happy mover, again tail carriage will settle with time; 3, West's Sheigra Stargazer. **SpND** (6,1), Every's Weirdene Wizardry at Helenwood, golden, pleasing head and expression, plenty of bone, good natural coat, looked good standing and moving; 2, Brookes's Kyrenia Loch Keeper, black, a very nice dog of correct size, nice head, has good bone and body, didn't make the most of himself; 3, Mace's Fonesse Five Minutes. **SpGD** (6) 1, Lester's Quettadene Cosmopolitan, black, has balanced head with nice expression, compact and well made up in ribs, stands on neat legs and feet, good bend of stifle, moved well; 2, Rowland's Perrytree Toffee Crisp, black, built on similar lines, with good head, big ribs, smooth coat, inclined to raise his tail a little on the move; 3, West's Sheigra Sugar Daddy With Donmyl JW. **SpOD** (4) 1, Costello's Judika Full Moon, mature black, good neck and well-placed shoulder, well-ribbed body and hocks well let down, neat, precise movement at correct pace with no tension on the lead, many exhibitors would do well to take a lesson from this handler; 2, Marris-Bray's Helenwood Black Ice, another good one, pleasing head and expression, similarly constructed, close up; 3, Claramand Arrifana Apollo. **Any Colour: VD** (5) 1, Williams' SU (U) Ch/Ir Sh. Ch. Manacas Cutting Corners, attractive blue roan, pleasing head, maybe a trifle long, but well constructed and in good firm condition, moved briskly, happy dog, BVD; 2, Tuohy & Whitham's Claramand Morse Code to Arrifana JW ShCM, compact golden, very nice

head and expression with dark eye, lovely coat, good bone, moved well; 3, Covington's Molkara Allegiance to Silverdust JW ShCM. **MPD** (22, 4) 1, Gilmour's Chavez Royal Victor, 8-month black dog, sweet head and expression, lovely ribs and body, beautifully presented, very promising, BMPD, and saw off the challenge of the older dog for BPD; 2, Hooper's Spendles Pipers Son, eye-catching light blue, body well developed for his 7 months, with good ribs and substance, well-shaped head, moved with enthusiasm, one to watch; 3, Jones & Simmonds' Shenmore Still Smiling. **PD** (8,1) 1, C. Love Em and Leave Em; 2, Whiting's Plaiglen Returns to Annilann, forward typey, blue of 8 months, good length of neck, big ribs, very happy mover, would like a little more refinement round the eyes, and coat has not yet got the finish of the older winner; 3, K. Kumon. **JD** (4) 1, Q. Cosmopolitan; 2, Share-Jones's Sharemead The Sultan, lovely head on this young golden, with good natural coat, has the attributes to go far, sound mover; 3, Todd, McCormack & Brown's Craigdean Handy Andy. **YD** (6,2) Ellison's Withiflor Blulaw JW, blue roan, good overall shape, moved well, balanced head, though a little more quality there would complete the picture; 2, Young's Canyon Classic Illusion JW, presents an example of a mature Cocker, in lovely coat well presented, moved soundly; 3, Pearce-Gudger's Pearkim Pumpkinpie. **MD** (7) 1, C. Love Em and Leave Em; 2, W. Wizardry at H.; 3, M. Bring It On At B. **TD** (4) 1, W. Wizardry at H; 2, Phillips' Moonwood Barley Sugar, compact orange roan, nice natural coat well-presented; a little flat in skull, moved happily; 3, Costello's Judika Colorado. **UD** (3) 1, S. The Sultan; 2, R. Little Star; 3, Gostelow's Domneva Dionysus. **PGD** (7, 2) 1, Todd, McCormack & Brown's Lynwater Storm Petrel, golden with nice head and kind expression, solid body, good conformation giving good outline, natural coat, moved well if a little fast; 2, Craigdean Kokrhoop at Glasedin, nice type dark blue, good bone and substance, heavier head, moved well; 3, Margetts' Sirrah Silver Dawn. **SpBD** (4,1) 1, Potter's Chancegate Blue Lancer, dark blue dog of Cockery type, quite nice head, compact in body, in good hard condition enabling him to move well, very merry; 2, M. Barley Sugar; 3, Downs' Zakova Footsteps. **LD** (14,5) 1, Stapley & Hill's Staplehill Songwriter, dark blue dog of good type and compact appearance, balanced head with kind expression, good ribs and body, in hard condition, moving well and soundly, a little more attention to the coat would give a finish to this nice dog; 2, Adams' Tillarn The Chocolatier, would prefer a

darker eye for this liver roan, but is a lovely dog, has nice head with low-set ears, good spring of rib, well presented, enthusiastic sound mover; 3, Raquin's Marquell Hillfiger. **OD** (11, 6) 1, Bentley's Sh.Ch. Canigou Rocket Science, what a lovely dog, a real gentleman, has a sweet head and expression, excellent outline with lovely body and coat, scores on feet and front movement, pleased to award him the CC, which I understand is his 15th; 2, Pretty & Carpenter's Joaldy Mandolin Wind JW ShCM, striking black and white in beautiful condition and coat in lovely order, well-moulded head with tight eye, commands the ring on the move, well-muscled, RCC; 3, Driver' Beckaby Lunar Shadow. The dog, Sh.Ch.Canigou Rocket Science was RBIS, the bitch, Ellison's Sh.Ch. Canigou Story Time at Withiflor JW being awarded BIS, having been put forward by the visiting judge from Finland Mrs A. Koskelo. This was Story Time's 13th CC and Mrs Bentley must feel very proud to have bred both top winners at this show.

Jennifer Lloyd Carey (Judge – Dogs)