

2010 MAJOR TROPHY SHOW – 5TH FEBRUARY 2011

JUDGES REPORT: JOHAN DU TOIT

“Impressed” is the word to express myself at having enjoyed the honour of judging this Supreme event for 2010. The pre-show arrangements were excellent. Mr Wynand Lourens telephoned me to advise that the judges would be kept separately while our “better” halves would be treated at a VIP table next to the ring. A professionally organised after show dinner presentation gave the general feeling of being part of something BIG. Thanks to all involved.

I thank each entrant for making the effort of being present - you are all winners, but we could have only one Supreme Bull Terrier for 2010.

Some comments noted down while I was judging:

No. 28 Galactica Snooze You Looz has one of the best profiled heads – long, yet filled – slight curve, egg shaped and an excellent roman finish.

No. 7 Shodan Chilly Pepper has the richest red colour I have seen in a long time.

No. 17 Ch. Lubjan Moncho of Rhizen has the strongest round bone and although not the smoothest dog, he is all power in a package.

No. 6 Ch. Ipon Take A Hike of Carradice has small, obliquely set, sly eyes (wicked expression)

No. 27 Crownjul Ruby Tuesday has one of the best profiles and height.

No. 3 Erazijo Iron Man fits so tightly in his skin and would have been my choice for substance if the class existed.

Overall not a lot of mouth faults – well done to all.

I confirm the talk that our depth in quality Bull Terriers (especially the females) is lacking.

We lack movement as I could identify only 3 good movers on the day and movement is a result of....?

On the Negative side, I must comment on:

1. The Over 2 Years dog class had about 5 dogs disturbing the group with an aggressive nature towards each other – not on, as we have a modern breed in a modern (non-aggressive) world.
2. We have a huge problem that needs to be addressed, namely the short upper arms in our breed. 60% and more, have very short upper arms – they seem more like sunken 4x4 vehicles with bodies lowered between the front legs. In movement they lose smoothness and have no reach with the front legs.

The winners of classes I judged are as follows : (All dogs judged were entire)

Imported Dog: Winner – No. 1 Ch. Dajan Skies The Limit at Sandawana, also proceeded to win Best Imported Bullterrier and Best Head):

I was immediately impressed when I saw his strong, deep head with correct teeth at the age of almost 8 years. Nice, small, dark eyes with correctly placed ears rounded off this pleasant picture. I nominated him for Best Head.

He is over his prime and seems a bit long in the back. When moving away and back he moved parallel, but seen from the side, I would have liked more power in his drive. An excellent specimen despite being over his prime, but he was still competing - In my opinion beating 90% of the dogs entered.

He proceeded to win the title as Best Head 2011, although my choice was No. 17, Ch. Lubjan Moncho of Rhizen, for his powerful head.

Dogs Under 2 Years: Winner - No 3 Erazijo Iron Man, also Best Coloured Bull Terrier.

Went to this red dog with excellent height and balance. Deep red colour and excellently marked. He fits so tightly in his skin and showed with presence – well done to the handler. I like his large and square set teeth, perfect scissors bite with two normal canines. Well balanced with excellent round bone, small feet – moves relatively well, but closes up with his hind legs when moving away. Needs more power on the drive when viewed from the side. His conformation is excellent with a short back (absolutely no dip). Nice layback of shoulder. Overall a dog that looks like a champion, this young fellow fits his skin perfectly. For me the clear winner of the class.

Dogs Over 2 Years:

I was called to referee between two separate types - one being the powerhouse bull type and the other the smooth operator.

Winner – No. 17 Ch Lubjan Monchou of Rhizen , also proceeded to become 2010 Supreme Bull Terrier.

What a powerhouse! The thickest round bone (with cat like feet) and best compactness I have seen on a Bull Terrier in a long time. He was toned to perfection with ideal weight and muscle. Strong deep head with the most impressive underjaw and large square set teeth. And yes, I re-checked his teeth; they are a perfect scissors bite. His head is a typical play-off of power versus curve, but in my opinion he lacks a bit of curve to complete this perfect picture of power. He has small, dark eyes and both ears are carried erect. Excellent conformation -short back with low tail setting, powerful front legs and strong (muscled) well angulated stifling. His movement is square in front, but lacking stride in forearms due to his short upper arms, yet a powerful, square drive from the hindquarters.

His competition was dog No. 16, Ch. Lubjan Le Patron of Niroux, that did not have the same presence. A smooth dog, teeth perfect, moved relatively well, smooth curved head, but outclassed by his litter brother, in movement together with the virtue of being a powerhouse.

Just for the record - the mismark on No. 16's back is just another fault and did not even play a role in choosing No. 17 over him.

Coloured Dog: Winner – No. 3 Erazijo Iron Man, also proceeded to be chosen as Best Coloured Bull Terrier.

He was my choice (described above) in a split decision upheld by the referee, David Thomson.

Imported Bitch: Winner – No. 24 Ch. Westbul Xavierra of Franjan.

White 2 year old bitch with nice height and reach of neck. Has a nice profile with correctly placed ears, but the head seems short, needs more fill in the muzzle area. Black nose and perfect scissors bite, but with one in- grown canine. Nice short back and low set tail. Moving away and back she closes up both front and back and has one loose elbow that could be clearly seen when moving towards me.

Bitches Under 2 Years: Winner – No. 27 Crownjul Ruby Tuesday, also proceeded to the title of Bitch of the Year.

I was called to referee the split decision between Crownjul Ruby Tuesday and No. 25, Bellators Bells Are Ringing of Lubjan.

Ruby Tuesday is a young bitch of 16 months with an excellent profile and height and showed to perfection. She has a lot of presence, nice profiled head with roman finish and black nose. Her teeth are a perfect scissors bite and she has correct canines. Excellent conformation with short back, low set tail, and adequate stifling to round of this excellent picture. I liked the slight roach over the loin completing a pleasing side view, which is her greatest virtue. I would have liked to have seen more bone and her ears are slightly to the sides. She closes slightly in away and back movement, although she covers the ground like a feather. I didn't like the view judging her side movement as I needed to see more power and drive from her hindquarters.

No 25 Bellators Bells Are Ringing of Lubjan – later winning the Best Mover award.

Again a powerful bitch with strong head and excellent fill. She has a slightly curved head with nice, small dark eyes, a scissors bite with an in-grown canine. She moves like a power train with drive from the hindquarters while front and hind legs remain parallel. I selected her for movement. Strong bone and overall a very powerful, yet feminine bitch. Again I was bothered by the short upper arms.

My choice was the eye catching Crownjul Ruby Tuesday, in profile.

Bitches Over 2 Years: Winner – No. 34 Ch. Jococla Pink Freedom.

Strong white bitch with an excellent head. Strength, yet femininity, is part of the package. Strong head, nicely curved with small intelligent eyes, but the head was spoilt by a mouth fault of an in-grown canine and a broken tooth. She is long in back, but ending in strong, well angulated

hindquarters. She was the clear winner in this class with the better movement - square and with drive. Nicely presented.

Coloured Bitches: Winner – No. 26 Chrismarnic Manta, also Best Coloured Bitch.

Strong red bitch with movement being her virtue – she moves absolutely square both going and coming back to you. Side movement shows adequate drive. Her layback of shoulder is not enough and I would have liked to have seen some more brisket. She has perfect teeth – regular, square and a perfect scissors bite. Nice head with slightly round eyes. Would have liked more angulated stifles with lower tail set.

My second choice was an almost solid, dark brindle with a mouth fault, dip in the back, moving in close both front and back and the head appears too small for the body. The reason I mention my second best is to illustrate that the quality in this class was not up to standard and, in my opinion, did not qualify for such an elite event. Perhaps the organisers should rethink the qualifying criteria.

Thanks again, and please take urgent note of the short upper arms as this will come to haunt us in future.

Johan du Toit - Judge