

SBTCA Specialty Sunday September 4th 2022

Stuart Cairns

Thank you to the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America for inviting me to judge the regional Specialty and to the members/exhibitors for showing. It was a great honor to be invited and to judge my first Specialty. I have been fortunate to be mentored by enthusiasts from the West Coast to East Coast and I would like to thank all of them for preparing me so well. I hope the exhibitors agree. I would also like to thank Club President and my ring steward extraordinaire, Angela (Angie) Vaughan, for being such a great help.

As for the dogs, you will hear it many times from judges, that it is always easier to judge good dogs and that did make my job easier. It came down to slight differences in most cases and made the assignment very enjoyable. Found my Winning dogs had very similar qualities throughout.

Winners Dog & Best of Winners

Gatliff's **Homebrewed Tuned For Torque**. (GCH CH Samross American Dream ex CH Homebrewed Ciera You Can't Make Me) Wonderful dog who I thought lacked a little maturity to challenge for the top spot but I think time is on his side and BOB's will come his way. Has all the virtues I was looking for with ample cheek muscle, good width of head, distinct stop with correct length of muzzle and strong jaw. Correct ears and forward looking round eyes. Good width of chest, straight legs with preferred turn out and correct feet. Nice angles both front and rear with good bend of stifle. Good depth to chest.

Winners Bitch

Holmen & Holmen's **Hammystaff Miss Medcity** (Dusklight Against All Odds ex Hammystaff Slap'N Tickle)

Wonderful little bitch who had great femininity but still maintained the strength required. For a smaller girl, head had good width with pronounced cheek muscles. Distinct stop. Muzzle length was adequate, with strong underjaw. Rose ears set correct. Good bone on a feminine frame with correct feet. Good angles carried her to the winners bitch.

Best of Breed

Johnson & Johnson's **GCHS CH Takedowns Not Happenin' Mar** (GCHS CH Devils And Fairies Flesh For Fantasy ex GCH CH Takedowns Sweet Nittany Lion) Although it is sometimes difficult not to be drawn to a spectacular male, I had the pleasure of having multiple in the ring. Amongst a group of elite animals this boy stole the show with his wonderful head qualities, flowing into a correct neck which flowed into the shoulders. Head had correct, pronounced cheek muscles, good ear set with light rose ears, good width and correct length of muzzle, strong underjaw. Nice width of chest, straight front with good bone, and tidy feet. Level topline with good angle through the stifles and well let down hocks.

Best of Opposite Sex

West & Berry's **GCH CH Willaby's Southern Cross** (GCHS CH Pinnacle's You Can't Take Command ex GCHG CH Ciera Homebrewed Born Free) Lovely head piece, with the required qualities mentioned throughout this report. Broad skull with pronounced cheek muscles, good strength of muzzle with correct length. Rose ears set correctly with a good stop and eye expression. Broad chest, with good angles again, front and rear. Well bent stifles and good spring of rib.

Select Dog

Caswell & Caswell's **GCHB CH Wavemaker Nonesuchswell**(Stormbull Solo ex CH Wavemaker Briny Breezes)

The difference between the two top dogs was very slight and this dog was unfortunate. Super cheek muscles with correct length of muzzle. Distinct stop and round eye with good width of skull, rose ears. Strong underjaw with correct front, deep and wide chest. Short coupled with lightness in the loin and strong well angulated rear.

Select Bitch

McGrew & McGrew's **GCHB CH Pinnacle's Twice As Nice**(Stormbull Solo ex CH Pinnacle's Me Myself & I)

Another girl with good, pronounced cheek muscles with correct head proportions. Stop, round eye with rose ears. Chest is wide with good depth, light in loin and fairly short-coupled. Good strength in the rear and ample bend of stifle. Well toned animal.

Award of Merit

West & Berry's **GCHS CH Pinnacle's You Can't Take Command** (Stormbull Solo ex GCHB CH Dynastaffs Return ToSender)

Award of Merit

McCullough's **Bullwark I'll Always Be Your Girl** (CH Wavemaker This Charming Man ex Cheernika Daenerys Targaryen)

If I can add a few pointers, I haven't included in my critiques, not just the winning animals. The condition of all the dogs was fantastic. Not only well presented but in good fitness and carrying correct weight with light loin. All animals but 2 had perfect bites. Scissor with clear canines. Something which I have seen too often but not on this day, was correct length of neck, short but not stuffy. Movement was also nice to see as most moved parallel from behind. I did see a few who pinned in coming towards but generally front movement was good also. If I would like to improve anything overall, it would be a slightly shorter loin but now I am being picky.

