

ED SIMPSON MEMORIAL CLASSES

First of all I would like to thank the Club Committee for inviting me to judge the Ed Simpson Memorial Classes at the Club Championship Show. Being inside this 'unique' ring for the fanciers of the breed from all around the world, on this quite new role to me, was not even a dream, as I would have never ever imagined it could have become a reality. And having Sue Young and Debbie Grice as my ring stewards was almost embarrassing, as our roles should have been the opposite way round to give the whole picture a justice. So thanks also to them for their patience and help to keep me on track and to smooth my tenseness with their smiles. Thanks also to the exhibitors who entered their dogs in these special classes despite the 'unknown' judge appearing on the schedule.

PROGENY (4,2) 1 Bentley's Sh Ch Canigou Rock Star, a b/t dog that has always been among my 'favourites' of more recent years, showed clearly to me how well his attributes were imprinted on his progeny, including black and red colours, all extremely similar in conformation, with wonderful bodies, full of soundness and cobbyness, but also with such nicely chiselled heads and soft expressions, true cocker type; 2 Nuttall's Carmelfair Calabrianna, a blue bitch with a larger progeny on display here than the winner dog, all b/r with one single c/r, all showing a very correct type and precise movements both ways given by lovely front assemblies and correct rear angulations, the influence of the dam on her progeny was evident, the homogeneity of the whole team is a stand-out, not an easy task in this colour.

BRACE (8) 1 Driver's blues where such a pleasure to see floating around the ring in a unison, undoubtedly their wonderful schooling played a role on my final decision, but they also showed a very correct breed type and clear dimorphism, so important nowadays; 2 Share-Jones' reds were extremely typical and well built on a solid frame, with gorgeous heads and expression, it was the hardest decision of my day to pick the best brace here and I'm sure they can change place on another day.

MASSIMO CHIRIVI