

Linda Vousden's Judge Critiques for Tonkinese Cat Club Show 24-May-2014

The back to back Tonkinese Club's show was my first engagement since becoming a PJ and what a joy that it should be at my own breed show. I am grateful to the exhibitors for trusting me with their cats. Very many thanks to Kathy Wilkinson for inviting me. It was a busy day for all, especially as so many of our new coat-patterns were out in their Assessment classes. Everyone appeared to have a good time. Thanks to Coral Macey & her team for a great lunch and a special thank you to Karen Durden for giving me her day off to steward for me and for handling the cats so gently. I had a wonderful time and the show was an absolute credit to Kathy and her team!

BREED Class 15 – Brown , Blue, Chocolate, Lilac or Caramel Kitten Male – One in class

1st & BOB - Mee's AMORCATZ BRUNO MARS (TOS c 32, 74c) M 10.12.2013. A superb example of a Tonkinese. Lovely head of good balance, bite level, firm chin of good depth. Very good muzzle neither pointed nor square, with correct moderate defined whisker pinch. Desired nose break depth, top of nose without bumps or roll off. Rounded top of head with ears of good shape, pricked forward and set well to give the head the overall impression of an equilateral triangle when viewed face on. The eyes were a good size for the head, held a little open at the start of the day but beautiful when more relaxed - almond with a slightly more rounded lower line as desired. The eye colour was a good balance of light blue/green enhanced by the dark lilac eye leather that matched the nose leather and toned with the slightly pinker paw pads. The body was firm and a very good size and weight for his age, rounded chest, straight firm limbs, neatly shaped feet and a tail of good shape tapering slightly to a rounded tip and balancing the length of the body. The coat was sleek, soft and close-lying. The coat-pattern was a good example of the TCR pattern with the pinkish-grey points merging gently with the lighter toned body colour. The colour was clean and without undesirable shading or barring. A little nervous to begin with but very easy to handle and purred all the time. Lovely condition and well presented. I look forward to seeing him in the future.

Misc. Class 35 – AC Breeders Female Adult – Two in class, one withdrawn.

1st – Macey's IGR CH FEHELDEE DAISIEMAY (TOS km 32, 74p) F 01.12.2006. A distinctive and mature lady looking younger than her age, and very feminine. Overall very good type. Her head, on an elegant neck, was a moderate wedge, a little flat on top now. In profile she has a very small bump on her nose that makes her gentle nose break look deeper than it actually is. She has a level chin of moderate depth and a level bite. Correctly rounded muzzle and defined whisker pinch, neither fine nor square. Moderately large ears well-spaced and shaped, with oval tips pricked forward. Correct eye size and shape, gently slanting almond shaped slanting toward the nose with rounded lower line, colour was a good bluish green. Slender body of good size, weight and firm feel, with slightly tapering tail to balance. Slender strong limbs with neat oval paws. A soft close lying coat, the colour being a definite fawnish-grey caramel well mingled with clear apricot and although she is a Tortie her TCR pattern is obvious, showing a gentle merging of the darker colouring on her points to a lighter tone on her body. A sweet natured cat, easy to handle and in good condition.

Withdrawn – Singleton's CH TONKYWAY BOURNVILLE CARINA (TOS n 32, 74) F 10.11.2010.

Misc. Class 49 – Brown or Chocolate (incl. Tabby & Tortie) Kitten – Two in class

1st – Richards's TONKAHOLICS BERLINTONBERTIE (TOS n 31, 74q) M 24.01.2014. What a playful, confident baby. Just a little small for his age but had good weight and a firm feel to his body. Overall of good type. Head was a moderate wedge with a rounded top and correct ear and eye size for balance. Ears were well set and pricked forward with oval tips, eyes were a lovely almond shape with rounded lower line, typical muddy kitten eye-colour but with nice green tones coming in. Good profile with gentle nose break and straight nose. Muzzle firm and rounded without being square, correctly defined whisker pinch. Very slightly receding chin but good bite. Coat was still a little fluffy,

very much a baby coat but a nice warm and even-toned brown that is required of the BCR pattern. A clear coat with no undesirable shading or barring. Good moderately shaped body with tail of good shape to balance. Lovely condition and presentation, I look forward to watching his development.

2nd – Singleton's TONKYWAY TUREIS (TOS n21 32, 74t) F 30.01.14. What a wonderful temperament this little tabby kitten had, playful and a bit of a wriggler. She had a good firm body, well-toned and the right weight for her age. My overall impression was that she was a little too slender for type. Her head was generally well balanced with good ear set and shape but her rounded muzzle was rather narrow and the whisker pinch quite strong, her profile was good with a rounded top of head, the correct nose break and firm chin of good depth, her nose had a very slight roll-off at the end. Her body was firm and lean, her tail was quite fine and tapering but not whippy and it balanced the length of her body. Her lovely alert eyes were well shaped, almond with a rounded lower line, and the correct size for her head, they were a typical muddy kitten colour at present showing green tones in the middle. Her warm brown tabby markings were very clear on the points with a good scarab, cheek ribbons, whisker-pads spots, thumb prints clear on the back of her ears, an almost complete necklace and well defined stripes on her legs and tail. The point's markings were just a little darker than the clear ticking on the body, which was laid over a warm ivory ground colour. Her fur was fine, soft and close-lying with a lovely sheen. I hope to see her again when she has had time to mature and I'll be interested to see how her coat-pattern develops. A very sweet baby, in lovely condition and well presented.

Misc. Class 82 – Adult with Best Temperament – Two in class, one CNH.

1st – Hunter's IGR CH TALLICA MICKEY BLUE EYES (TOS km 32, 74fn) M 22.06.11. This huge boy never fails to endear himself, despite his size he is easy to handle, if you can prevent him from rolling on to his back all the time. Allowing for his jowls his head was a good medium wedge with moderate sized ears that were well spaced and set, giving the impression of an equal sided triangle when viewed face on. Large eyes held slightly open but well-shaped, lustrous and of a pale bluish green. Good profile, rounded top to head with gentle nose break, level bite and level chin. Correct whisker pinch and a strong rounded muzzle but not square. Substantial muscular body with strong limbs, oval paws and a well-shaped, slightly tapering tail that balanced the length of the body. An excellent example of an Apricot TCR pattern, the darker hot cream points merged into the lighter body colour, the legs and oval paws were a slightly paler but toning shade of the head colour. The colour was clearly neither red nor cream and showed brownish overtones on the points, particularly his forehead, the backs of his ears, his hocks and down the middle of his tail. No undesirable shading or barring on torso. His coat was slightly full and a little open, not unexpected in a working stud, but soft and in good condition. Lovely nature and well presented.

CNH – Richards's CH TARJIKA SIMPLY RED (TOS d 32, 74d) M 01.05.13.

Misc. Class 83 – Adult with Best Eye Colour – Two in class, one withdrawn.

1st – Adams's WHYOO HERKATZ KIKI (TOS c 32, 74c) F 09.07.13. A beautiful young lilac female. Very good overall Tonkinese type. A firm and substantial feel to her body. Medium wedge shaped head with rounded top between well-spaced, and set, moderately large ears. When viewed face on her head gave the impression of a perfectly balanced equilateral triangle. In profile she had the desired medium nose break with a level bite and chin of good depth. Her eyes were a little full but nicely almond shaped slanting down toward the nose with a more rounded lower line. The eye colour was a very good balance of blue and green, clear and lustrous. Her colouring was definitely lilac and clearly expressed the TCR coat-pattern. The pinkish-grey points colour gently merged with the warm ivory of the body. The colour on her limbs matched the mask colour in tone, and all of her lavender coloured leathers matched. The coat was very soft and close-lying. Her limbs were straight and her feet a neat oval shape, her tail was a good length to balance the body, tapering gently to a rounded tip. A good natured female, well prepared and presented.

Withdrawn – Singleton's CH TONKYWAY BOURNVILLE CARINA (TOS n 32, 74) F 10.11.10.

Misc. Class 98 – Adult Female – One in class

1st – Beckett’s INDIGO OLYMPIA (TOS n 32, 74) F 17.10.2012. This beautiful brown female was one of my favourites of the day. A good weight and size for her age. She had a well-proportioned head for type with a gently rounded top, good profile with a gentle nose break, even bite and firm chin. Strong muzzle that was neither pointed nor square. Her ears were well spaced, set and pricked forward with the size balancing the lines of her head, just a fraction more pointed than oval at the tips. She was just a little nervous and held her eyes wide open, but when relaxed in her pen they were a good size for her head, nicely almond shaped slanting down toward the nose with a correctly rounded lower line. The eye colour was even-toned blue-green. Good, firm, medium length body with rounded chest, straight limbs and oval paws, her tail balanced the length of her body well. Her coat was a dark warm brown with an excellent TCR pattern expression - the points merging very gradually into the lighter, toning body colour. The coat was soft, close-lying and shining. She had a lovely temperament and enjoyed a cuddle from both my steward and me. Beautiful condition, well presented and I very much look forward to seeing her again.

HHP, PEDIGREE PETS OPEN Class 131 – SH AC Kitten – One in class.

1st & BIC – Henty’s FREYA (SH Brown Tabby) F 6 Months. The only one in the class, and what a beautiful girl. Gorgeous clear golden eyes set in a superbly marked warm brown spotted tabby coat, I loved the tummy spots. Very soft and close lying fur. She was a lovely size for her 6 months and a most endearing character. Easily handled, purring and chatty, she didn’t want to go back into her pen. Well-presented and in excellent condition, a real pleasure to handle.

HHP, Misc. Class 133 – Any Kitten Under 9 Months

1st – Henty’s FREYA (SH Brown Tabby) F 6 Months.

HHP, Misc. Class 136 – Any Cat Over 7 Years. - Three in Class, one absent.

1st – Timberlake’s MC CHEZACER (SH Brown) MN 12 years 9 months. Wonderful! I fell in love with this huge male on first sight. Lovely short wedge shaped head with neat ears, rounded muzzle, long whiskers and the most gentle, glowing golden eyes. Large firmly-toned cobby body with straight back, rounded chest, strong limbs and neat feet, lovely tail to balance. Plush, silky coat lying close in to the body in a gorgeous rich warm brown colour. When I picked him up he snuggled under my chin and I didn’t want to put him down again. Excellent condition, wonderful temperament for a gentleman of his age, breeding and size. Beautifully presented and a pleasure to handle – I’d love to own him.

2nd – Lowell’s IGMC HELLS BELLS (SH Blue Smoke Tortie & White) FN 14 Years. A real sweetheart whose extrovert behaviour and lovely condition belied her age. Bright, alert and very happy to be cuddled. A tortie rex of true blue colouring, with her white waved fur and blue/pink mottled leathers she looked very feminine. Her body was slim but firm with a finely tapering tail. Her large ears, curly whiskers and wrinkled forehead, combined with large golden, rather wistful, eyes were very appealing. Such a pity she was up against the 1st placed cat. She was a delight to handle and I’ll bet she’s fun around the house.

HHP, Misc. Class 143 – Cat or Kitten with Most Unusual Coat-Pattern. - Two in Class. Unfortunately I couldn’t award two 1st places.

1st – Mee’s MC CRISTAL (SH Blue & White) FN 5 Years. A good size and feel to her with a very kittenish expression. Large, lustrous eyes, slightly more slanted than round, of pale blue. The combination of her soft blue colour, the clean white plush fur and the pastel pink of her nose and inner ears gave the impression of a Neapolitan ice-cream – a very pretty cat. Calm and gentle she was easily handled and it was a pleasure to do so.

2nd – Tolhurst’s IGMC HEIDI (SH Tortie-Tabby & White) FN 11 Years. Another charmer whose appearance belied her age. A very sweet face, the lower half was predominantly white with appealing smudges of colour on her nose and muzzle. Her ears had little tufts of fur at the tips. Her coat was soft and well prepared, in lovely bright tortie colours – vivid ginger, clean white and dense black, with large patches well-distributed and tabby markings clear on her forehead, torso and tail. Beautiful lustrous black-rimmed green eyes. A little matronly plumpness but in good condition. A good natured little lady who was a pleasure to handle.

HHP, Misc. Class 147 – Cat or Kitten That Was A Rescue. - Two in Class, both very sweet creatures.

1st – Simpson’s MANDY (SH Classic Tortie-Tabby) FN 5 Years 1 Month. I have to say this little girl stole my heart and just oozed charisma, especially considering that this is her first time being shown. Very feminine, chatty and friendly. Her fur was plush and soft, with the lovely warm chocolate and brown classic-tabby pattern with very subtle tortie mottling in an almost apricot colour – all set-off with bright golden eyes. She handled beautifully, she was relaxed and made a fuss of my steward and me. In excellent condition and well prepared. She has a lucky owner.

2nd – Lowell’s IGMC HELLS BELLS (SH Blue Smoke Tortie & White) FN 14 Years.