My thanks to the Northern Boxer Club Committee for giving me the opportunity to judge at this prestige Club Championship Show, and for the hospitality as well as excellent organization and support.

I would also like to thank the exhibitors for the good entry and seeking my view about their Boxers!

As usual I was impressed by the overall professionalism and sportsmanship of the UK Boxer exhibitors in presenting and showing their Boxers! My only criticism is the widespread practice of food baiting, covering the mouth and face. This makes it difficult to get a proper sight of the head, often hiding or spoiling the virtues of a good head!

Unfortunately, there was a huge difference in numbers and quality between the classes, which had the consequence that quite a few excellent bitches were left unplaced or without a proper and deserved recognition. This I found more so than on previous occasions of judging.

I believe it is important not to lose sight of the Boxer Breed Standard as the prime guide in judging our breed. And with the focus on what the Standard calls for, I would like to share my impressions of my bitch entry:

Overall, I was impressed with the many excellent outlines of true boxer type , combining elegance with substance! And mostly correct toplines with well crested necks and short backs. Pasterns and feet were with few exceptions outstanding. Excellent and well angulated hindquarters and correctly shaped thighs dominated the picture.

Heads were mostly lean with good depth, width and length muzzle. However, I was often disappointed with heads lacking in true Boxer expression with too much "flesh" and wrinkles. Most serious I found the widespread insufficiently pronounced chins. This is such an important feature which gives the Boxer its special character and look! I was mostly left with no other alternative than putting up exhibits lacking in this respect. My concern is that we have got so used to this missing feature, that it may already have become the norm!

Mouths were by and large straight and sufficiently wide. However, the size of the teeth is often a problem being too small, and quite a few had only 5 incisors (instead of the required 6), and frequently the two middle teeth were very small and almost joined into one!

An even more serious and common problem, I found to be the insufficient length and angulation of the upper arm. In combination with strongly angulated hindquarters, you will often end up with movements lacking in reach, although they may have a good track and drive.

My final line-up of class winners was very pleasing for me to go over, and I feel demonstrates that the Boxer in UK – even with some of the above problems – is in a very strong position. I was extremely excited about my **CC-winning bitch - and later Best of Breed – Pynegar's Highcrest Coco Chanel at Berwynfa** – who exemplified a true Boxer Type in both head and outline, balanced with elegance and femininity. My young **Reserve CC Bitch – Glenauld Eaden** – as well as the **Best Puppy Bitch – Britesparke Glenda Spencer** – I feel displayed not only true type, but also style, alertness and charisma, which is a combination which we often don't see enough of.

Minor Puppy B (11/ absent 2):

A big class with many promising youngsters, but with a considerable variance in level of maturity. This provided me with a challenge in making my choices. It was a very close decision between my first two placings, and in the end I preferred the outline and head of my winner.

1. Mair's **Vandenrob Tisoni at Glenauld**. An elegant and striking red & white puppy. Well developed for her age. Square built with a super neck. Strong back. Good depth of brisket. Correct shoulder angulation. Super hindquarters with well a developed thigh. A clean and typical head of correct proportions and a pleasing expression, which would have been enhanced through a more pronounced chin. Moved effortlessly with presence and drive. Immaculate condition.
2. Cairn's **Galicar Indecent Proposal**. A striking and mature brindle & white puppy of promise. Very good outline. Square built. Good front legs, pastern and feet, but could do with more length of upper arm. Super and strong hindquarters. Feminine and typical head with a true expression. Very attractive eyes. The head proportions would have been improved through a slightly stronger muzzle. Moved well and well presented.

3. Foster's **Boxsanuk Aanya**.

Puppy B (13/ absent 1):

Another strong and big class. The first two placed exemplified for me a true Boxer type in outline and head, although different from each other in overall appearance. In the end I went for the more elegance & femininity of my winning choice.

1. **Best Puppy Bitch**. Lott's **Britesparke Glenda Spencer.** A very feminine and elegant red & white puppy. Excellent outline with a striking topline and attractive neckline. A truly correctly angulated shoulder and upper arm of correct length. Typical head with correct rise of skull, and of correct proportions. Very pleasing and alert expression with a distinct and dark mask. Beautiful eyes. A slightly more pronounced chin would have completed a perfect head. Moved with reach, flow and drive.

2. Tonkin's & Pellow's **Odyssea De Val De Cayone**. A big and very mature red & white puppy bitch of excellent and true boxer type in every respect. Strong bone. Excellent depth of brisket. Correct length and angulation of shoulder & upper arm. Correctly angulated hindquarters. Typical and strong head with beautiful eyes. Nice lip line with a correctly pronounced chin. Too much wrinkles spoils an otherwise perfect head. Excellent on the move, effortless with reach and drive.

3. Pynegar's & Esder's **Berwynfa Zoom Zoom Shu Boom**.

Junior B (5/ absent 3):

1. **Reserve CC**. Mair's **Glenauld Eaden**. I felt this young red & white bitch was a well deserved Reserve CC winner, exemplifying true Boxer type in overall outline coupled with elegance, charisma and energy when on the move. Excellent overall presence with a super topline, and in an immaculate condition. Short strong back with a nicely crested neck. Correct foreleg height and depth of brisket. Super feet. Good length and angulation of shoulder and upper arm. Excellent hindquarter angulation. correct depth of brisket. Lean typical head of correct proportions. Attractive eyes of correct size. More chin would enhance overall head appearance. Moved effortlessly with charisma, carrying her strong topline to perfection.

2. Beardsell's & Van-Beck's **Newlaithe Wandara**. Striking brindle & white of excellent Boxertype in outline and appearance. Square built. Lovely neck. Strong back. Good length of shoulder, but could do with more length of upper arm. More than enough angulated hindquarters with a well developed thigh. Typical head with attractive dark eyes and true expression, which would benefit from a shade more muzzle and a slightly more pronounced chin. Moves smoothly, but with a tendency to crab-like movements, and could do with more reach.

3. Picken's **Bellebox Top Trick**.

Yearling B (10/ absent 1):

A big class with several excellent young bitches, and when making my choices I focused very strongly on Boxer type in outline and heads.

1. Griffith's **Lanfrese Limelight**. Well presented brindle & white. Elegant in combination with excellent bone and substance, and true Boxertype in overall outline. Super neck. Good length of foreleg. Super feet. Excellent shoulder & hindquarter angulation. Lean typical head with good depth, width & length of muzzle. Nice eyes of good shape. Attractive and true expression. A more pronounced chin would enhance the look. Moved freely with good reach and drive.

2. Kavanagh's **Marbelton Back By Midnight**. True Boxer type in outline and overall appearance without exaggerations. Very clean with correct balance between elegance and substance. Correct shoulder & hindquarter angulation, which are in balance with each other. A very typical head of true Boxertype. Good depth & width of muzzle, but could do with less wrinkles and the eyes could be a shade tighter. Moved freely with reach and drive.

3. Payne's **Birleyvale Bellissima**

Novice B (7/absent 3):

A good quality class, but without any striking "top winners".

1. Mair's **Glenauld Marnie**. A short coupled red & white bitch with excellent topline. Nice neck. Strong back. Good foreleg height, Could do with more length and angulation of shoulder and upper arm. Hindquarters well angulated. Lean head of correct proportions. Her expression a shade plain, and could do with more chin. Moved smoothly and with drive*.*

2. Fairbrother's & Madin's **Vaneck Quick Silber**. True Boxer type in outline. Elegance & femininity combined with substance and good bone. Nice neck. Correct shoulder & hindquarter angulation. Lean head of correct type with beautiful eyes, but could do with a more pronounced chin. Moved freely with reach and drive.

3. 3. Fay-Smith's **Lorrosa Scout's Honour.**

Debutante B (3/ absent 1):

A very small class, but with a clear cut and outstanding winner.

1. Tonkin's & Pellow's **Odyssea De Val De Cayone**.
   See Puppy B.

2. Revill's **Verdendo Lucky Lu**. Elegant of correct over type. Super neck. A shade too long and her back could be firmer & stronger. Excellent hindquarters. Nice feet. Typical head in overall type, although not quite true in expression and could do with more chin. Moved freely, but lacking a bit in strength and drive.

3. Pynegar's & Loasby's **Berwynfa Wizza Dora**.

Graduate B (3/absent 4):

Another tiny class, but of high quality with the winner standing out by far!

1. **CC & BOB**. Pynegar's **Highcrest Coco Chanel at Berwynfa**. Feminine brindle & white with a true boxer type in outline and presence, exemplifying correct substance with elegance without being neither 'heavy' nor 'racy'. Square built. Good strong neck contributing to an excellent topline supported by a short, strong and well muscled back. Excellent depth of brisket. Correct shoulders with correctly angulated hindquarters without exaggerations. Super thigh. Excellent feet. Typical head with correct width and depth of muzzle with a true Boxer expression. Nice eyes of correct size. Moved extremely well, effortlessly and covered her ground well.

2. Bate's **Lulmire Rebel Rebel at Kalonika**.
   Elegant of very good type. Square built. Back could be stronger. Good depth of brisket. Nice neck. Balanced shoulder and hindquarter angulation. Lean head of good proportions. Could do with a more pronounced chin. Moved freely, but lacking a bit in strength and drive.

3. Humphrie's **Newlaithe Gingernut**.

Post Graduate B (5/absent 4):

1. Kelly's **Casemates Hufflepuff**.
   Big and striking red & white bitch with elegance and substance in excellent harmony. Nicely crested neck. Excellent shoulder angulation and with strong hindquarters, which are on the borderline of being over angulated. Excellent square appearance. Strong and short back. Typical head of good proportions, although a shade too wrinkled. Good width & depth of muzzle, and could do with a slightly more pronounced chin. Nice dark eyes. Moved smoothly with a lot of energy and drive. Well handled, bringing out the character of this attractive bitch.

2. Neilson's & Connell's **Borestone Take A Chance On Me.**
   Striking outline with elegance. Feminine appearance. Nicely crested neck. Well constructed, but could be a shade shorter. Typical head with good depth & width of muzzle. Could do with a more pronounced chin. Moved with a good flow and drive.

3. Brooks' **Jetboom Juicy Gossip about Jinnybrux**

Limit B (5/absent 6):

A high quality class as could be expected, but unfortunately with many absentees. All my placings I would rate as "Excellent"!

1. Lott's **Britesparke Luna Moonbug**.
Attractive bitch with presence combined with excellent Boxer type in outline. Square with good depth of brisket. Good foreleg height and super pastern & feet. Correct shoulder angulation and length of upper arm. Strong muscular and correctly angulated hindquarters. Strong back with a correct croup. Typical and expressive head with correct rise of skull and good width, depth & length of muzzle. A shade too wrinkled in skull. Beautiful dark eyes. Moved smoothly with both power and reach.

2. Lowery's **Danlow Knickerbocker Glory.**
Elegant with correct substance and typical outline. Short with a strong back. Nice neck. Well constructed. Excellent and firm condition Lean head of correct proportions. Could do with more chin. Excellent eyes of correct shape. Moved freely with reach and drive.

3. Copeland's **Kronos Stella Bonasera**.

Open B (10/absent 3):

An extremely strong class, and I would certainly rate all the placed as worthy champions. I was particularly impressed by my first 3 placed, and they presented me with a challenge in making my choice.

1. Mair's **Ch Vandenrob Nina Roche at Glenauld.**
Excellent in outline with a very appealing topline and presence. Strong bone. Short. Good depth of brisket. Strong back. Good length of shoulder, but would benefit from more length and angulation of the upper arm. Strongly angulated hindquarter with a well developed and broad thigh. Super feet. Head of excellent profile. Attractive eyes. Good depth, width & length of muzzle, but could do with more chin. Moved with a good flow and drive, although I would prefer a shade more reach. Excellent condition.

2. McCarthy's & Gething's **Ch Sunvalley Heart On Fire at Jeddhi.**
   Striking brindle & white of excellent feminine and elegant appearance.
   Super topline with a short and strong back. A clean and nicely crested
   neck. Good depth of brisket. Good length of shoulder. A bit short in
   upper arm. Super hindquarters with an excellent and nicely shaped
   thigh. Typical, clean and well chiselled head with a good depth, width
   and length of muzzle. Moved smoothly and with energy. Well presented.

3. Conway's **Multi Ch Bouncyparade La Nostra Vita**

Veteran B (2/absent 4):

1. Dawe's **Kai The Cornish Bear.**
   A good solid Boxer type. Square appearance with good substance and
   bone. Could do with more lay-back of shoulder. Excellent and strong
   hindquarters. Typical head of correct proportions, but could do with
   more chin. Super coat.
   In particular, she scored over her competitor with being in a super
   condition.

2. Revill's **Verdendo Yule Be Lucky JW.**
   Very typical in outline and presence of correct substance. Good & strong
   back. A strong head width & depth of muzzle. Could do with more chin.
   Eyes a bit too deep set. Well balanced shoulder and hindquarters. Could
   be stronger in back. She lacked a bit in firmness and drive when on the
   move.