

My heartfelt thanks to the Basenji Club of NSW Committee for the invitation and sincere thanks to all exhibitors who allowed me to go over so many beautiful Basenjjs.

Judging the Basenji Club of NSW Championship Show is one of the highest accolades to a Basenji breeder- judge and I am short for words to describe how much I enjoyed this assignment.

Being a Basenji breeder means one has taken up with a breed which was revealed to the western world by native Pygmies who managed to preserve their Basenjjs over thousands of years.

My deep belief is we have to do at least the same and my great hope is we will be able to resist the temptation to alter the breed for the sake of fashion.

I trust we can follow in this respect, the pioneers of our breed and leave Basenjjs to next generation in as good a shape as we inherited it.

The numbers of entries and the general quality were stunning. My place-getters and main winners pleased me beyond words. I felt sorry for so many beautiful Basenjjs which had to go unplaced and they had enough quality to win anywhere in the world in the hottest of competition.

Competition in Australia seems to be the most tough in the whole world and I cannot think of any other country being able to challenge Australian Basenjjs for depth in quality.

Some points need to be watched and one of them is size and correct balance.

While ideal size is firmly indicated in the standard there have never been doubts as to the fact there should be reasonable allowances made in this respect. Slightly more or slightly less seems alright as long as it is SLIGHTLY and does not affect the general balance.

In some exhibits too tall and too large would be more appropriate wording.

Poor angulation and short upper arm problems have been subject of countless discussion over many decades.

In many cases we still see not enough angulation, especially in front assembly and far too many dogs display short upper arm.

A bit deeper than usual stifle angulation seems to be on increase and needs to be reasonably handled.

In my evaluation of individual dogs I did not punish slightly better bent stifles as long as there was a matching front angulation.

We again need to allow some tolerances and realize that "moderate" is quite a capacious term.

The most important thing is that both ends are compatible and matching in construction and function.

We shouldn't forget how difficult it was to get rid of dead straight stifles, stilted hind movement or sickle hocks. It is by far better to work for betterment of front angulation and correct length of upper arm to match hind angulation than fighting against reasonably deeper hind angulation.

Moderate –as always with Basenjjs- remains a key word and we mustn't allow anything that cannot be named just that.

My next worry were colours and markings.

While most of dogs displayed clear, bright orange and uniform colour some were off-colour due to shedding.

Unfortunately some red/ whites were of deep brownish colour which is not typical at all and in some cases the colour was not evenly broken over body, forming shadowing around shoulders and flanks.

Most of tricolours were of superb colouring as were black and whites.

In brindles there seems to be tendency to reversing the colours of the pattern; instead of reds with black stripes there were some displaying black background with red stripes which do not fulfill the standard requirements.

Quite a number of dogs displayed ticking on white markings which cannot be tolerated.

Amount of white markings also seem to be a worry in far too many dogs. While bold markings in an individual dog can be considered a cosmetic feature too many dogs with markings of this kind in the breed must be alarming. It seems to be time to putting a firm halt on this tendency before mismarking becomes a bad problem of the breed as a whole.

Temperaments were stunningly good with some exceptions for shyness or bad mood but no aggressiveness whatsoever.

## Individual Critiques

### Class 1 Baby Puppy Dog

#### I.Wazazi Double Dare /4/

Eyecatching puppy of quality; strong, masculine but displaying elegance of high order. Perfectly balanced head, high set, hooded ears & profuse, fine wrinkles result in the best of expressions. Smart body, high tailset. Nice leg length; moved with good reach and matching drive, keeping topline all the time. Sleek, shining coat. Sweet disposition.

#### II.Kanibaru Khufu Lords Realm /17/

Lovely type. Perfect headpiece and expression. Firm back. Moderate, matching angulation, lovely swinging stride. Correct coat texture. Very friendly.

#### III.Afreyer Red McCoy /1/

Masculine. Nicely balanced body. Fabulous head and expression. Moderate front. Good reach, enough drive but still needs to tighten up all through. Correct, short coat. Charming temperament.

### Class 1A Baby Puppy Bitch

#### I.Remwin Sunshine Sensation /34/

Ultra feminine, melting expression. Profuse, fine wrinkles, lovely side wrinkles. Firm topline, high tailset. Matching angulation, moves with extension. Sleek coat, pliant skin. The sweetest little thing in the world with great personality.

#### II.Lomar Zahara /27/

Nicely balanced head, well proportioned body. Expressive, feminine head. Free mover, keeping nice topline. High tailset, good tailcarriage. Correct, short coat. Very friendly.

#### III.Remwin Kissmycheek /35/

Superb head and expression, A shade longer loins. Correct, moderate angulation. Free movement. Lovely disposition.

### Class 4 Junior Dog

#### I.Wazazi Living on the Edge /41/

Superbly balanced body; just hope he doesn't grow anymore. Correctly set & nicely hooded ears; nice eyeshape, profuse wrinkles. Fabulous expression. Stylish, free mover. Sleek coat. Extremely friendly.

#### II.Ch Kanibaru Liquid Gold /44/

Nicely balanced body; lovely, fine bone. Needs a bit more substance. Beautiful head proportions and expression. Moves soundly & with extension. Lovely, sleek coat.

#### III.Ch. Bkela Suni Mokobi /43/

Nicely balanced head, good expression. A trifle short upper arm but can move reasonably. Still in heavier, winter coat. Nice disposition.

### Class 5 Intermediate Dog

#### I.Wazazi High Velocity /45/

Up to size but well proportioned body. Ears set on top of skull and nicely hooded. Nice eye shape. Profuse wrinkles, far seeing expression. Strong back. Matching angulation, moves with good scope & drive. Single, sleek coat.

#### II.Ch Remwin Black Ramesis /47/

Outstanding black/ white with sleek, shining coat and nice markings. Masculine head; good expression. Lovely outline. Matching angulation. Moves freely with good reach and matching drive. Friendly.

#### III.Kikongo Puzzle Master /46/

Nicely balanced body. A trifle lower earset, still good expression. Firm topline, moves reasonably. Correct coat texture. Nice temperament.

### Class 8 Intermediate Dog

#### I.Bayenzi Tribeca /48/

Masculine & elegant. Lovely, expressive head with correct muzzle to skull ratio. Nicely put together, firm topline. Moderate angulation, positive, free movement. Fine coat. Very friendly.

**II. Jebelmarra Fire N Dandy /50/**

Lovely, true to original type. Masculine head, nice ear position, great expression. Matching angulation, good reach and drive but a bit unsettled on the move. Correct sleek coat. Friendly.

**III. Wazazi Awesome Moves /51/**

Well off for type & body balance. High earset, good wrinkles, lovely expression. Moves with reach & drive but doesn't show very well. Still in heavier, winter coat. Nice temperament.

**Class 9 State Bred Dog**

**I. Ch Bayenzi Sugar Minott /52/**

Ideal for size and balance. Masculine, well proportioned head & melting expression. Firm back. Moderate angulation with good scope and matching drive. Lovely, sleek tri coat. Superbly tempered.

**II. Ch. Bullab Xenas Seti /53/**

Eyecatching black/ white, nicely balanced and moving freely. Correctly proportioned head, lovely expression against a trifle lighter eyes. Nice, single coat. Lovely temperament.

**III. Ch Eurabbie Mustang /54/**

Good size. Pleasing expression. Firm back, a shade lower tailset. Moves reasonably. In between coats. Friendly.

**Class 10 Australian Bred Dog**

**I. Gd Ch Bayenzi Harem Holiday /66/**

Masculine with gazelle like grace and elegance of highest order. Superbly proportioned head & best of expressions. Perfectly balanced body. Tireless swinging stride without any exaggeration. Sleek, single coat. Lovely tempered.

**II. Jebelmarra Double Trouble /59/**

Masculinity & elegance of highest order well blended together. Correctly balanced head, hooded ears on top of skull, superb expression. Firm topline. High tailset, tight curl. Matching angulation, swinging stride and parallel quarters both ends. Lovely painted tri, still in winter coat. Friendly.

**III. Ch Barzoom Jigsaw /61/**

Masculine, expressive head. Strong topline kept on the move. A bit short upper arm but moves reasonably. Correct coat texture. Pleasing disposition.

**Class 11 Open Dog**

**I. Ch Kanibaru Vanilla Fruche /71/**

Outstanding male of ideal size and body shape. Masculine with gazelle like elegance both in construction and movement. Perfectly shaped head; small, high set, hooded ears and lovely wrinkles resulting in gorgeous expression. Short coupled body, firm back. High set tail, reachy hindquarters. Long forearm and pasterns, long second thigh. Free and tireless swinging stride. Sleek coat. Perfect disposition.

**II. Ch Telde Classic Love Affair /70/**

Up to size. Short coupled with firm back. Masculine head, good expression. Moves freely with good reach and drive. Nice, single coat. Well tempered.

**III. Ch Pukkanut Shadow Atremwn /72/**

Lovely size and body balance. Masculine, expressive head. Firm topline. Moves soundly. Correct coat texture. Reliable temperament.

**Veteran Dog 7-9**

**I. Bayenzi Jailhouse Rock /63/**

Typy male of correct size and body proportions but a trifle overweight. Appealing head and expression. Moderate angulation; sound, free movement. Correct, single coat. Very friendly.

**Veteran Dog 10 Years & Over**

**I. Gd Ch Jebelmarra Harum Scarum /76/**

Outstanding male displaying best points of original type. Masculine & highly elegant, strong enough and fine enough in bone. Perfectly balanced head and superb expression. Uses his long quarters to the full in long, tireless & swinging stride. Immaculate topline all the time. Very well tempered. In a pink of conditions but waiting for his new jacket.

**II.Ch Pukkanut Reveille on Ice (ai) /77/**

A bit taller, nice outline. Typy head and expression. Moves well and keeps topline on the move. Just a shade wider front. Correct coat texture. Pleasing temperament.

**Class 4A Junior Bitch**

**I.Afrikenji Tanjering Dream /82/**

Beautiful head; sweet, feminine expression. Correct topline. Moves very well. Fine coat, no undercoat. Pliant skin. Good temperament.

**II.Wazazi Living Doll /81/**

A bit stronger but feminine and elegant. High set ears, lovely expression. Short coupled, nicely put together. Moves reasonably but not enough powerful hind action. Lovely coat.

**III. Karamo Mopanzi /79/**

Correct head proportions but a bit lacking chiseling. Needs to tighten up in back. A bit lower tailset. Moves reasonably well. Good coat texture. Friendly.

**Class 5A Intermediate Bitch**

**I.Ch Bullab Xenas Cleopatra /85/**

Very good size and lovely general balance. Pleasing head and expression. Moderate matching angulation. Flawless movement. In between coats. Lovely temperament.

**II.Ch Zanzipow Red Lady Bird /87/**

Well proportioned body. Lovely expression. Moves with reach and drive but a bit soft topline on the move.

Nice coat. Friendly.

**III.Wazazi High Definiton /84/**

Pretty feminine head, lovely expression. Keeps topline nicely. Moves purposefully but not quite parallel. Fine coat. Good disposition.

**Class 8A Limit Bitch**

**I.Eurabbie Black Rose /90/**

Black white female of great quality and elegance of high order. Perfect size and balance. Pretty head & lovely expression. Strong back. Moderate angulation; very sound movement with good scope and matching drive. Fine, short coat.

**II.Wazazi The latest image /92/**

Lovely type and stunning expression. A shade lower tailset. Not enough scope and doesn't keep topline while moving. Sleek, fine coat.

**III.Zanzipow Red Eye Candy /89/**

Nice head and expression. Needs to tighten up all through. Pleasing, fine coat. Friendly.

**Class 9A State Bred Bitch**

**I.Zanzipow Stellar Red Surprise /95/**

Ultra feminine girl with pleasing headpiece and expression. Short coupled body, firm back. Moderate angulation both ends. A bit uncooperative in stance but moving very well with enough extension.

Nice coat texture & condition. Friendly temperament.

**II.Ch Wazazi High Expectations /94/**

Very pleasing type & size. Impressive head and expression. Nice picture while standing but lacks a bit animation and extension on the move and doesn't keep topline. Very nice, sleek coat. Friendly.

**Class 10A Australian Bred Bitch**

**I.Ch Kanibaru Del Diamante /97/**

Excellent size. Great head and expression. Quite deep but matching angulation, moves soundly. Short, fine coat. Shows well. Friendly.

**II.Ch Jebelmarra Dixie Chick /99/**

Elegant, stylish female. Lovely size, nicely proportioned body. Balanced head, lovely expression. Moves with reach and drive but lacks a bit more extension. Lovely coat texture, nicely marked tri. Very friendly.

**III.Ch Baagna Free Soul /105/**

Very pretty girl. Lovely headpiece and expression. Needs a bit more substance but displays elegance, balance and soundness of movement. Sweet natured.

## **Class 11A Open Bitch**

### **I.Ch Baagna Elofa Natural /114/**

Attractive, eye-catching, elegant female of good size. Expressive head, arched neck, firm back. Just right amount of angulation. Moves soundly with good extension. Fine coat. Lovely tempered.

### **II.Ch Kanibaru Caramel Fudge /113/**

Outstanding specimen of the breed just not in full bloom. A fraction tall but perfectly balanced body. Perfect head properties & superb expression. Good topline. A shade deeper but matching angulation. Moves with good scope and drive. Changes coat. Perfectly tempered.

### **III.Pretorium Hollywood**

Nicely put together, correct size. Pleasing expression. Moves very soundly and with extension. Correct coat texture. Friendly.

## **Veteran Bitch 7-9 Years**

### **I.Ch Bayenzi Melody Maker /119/**

Female of great charm and appeal. Good size and overall balance. Lovely head properties and expression. Strides out freely with good reach and drive. Short, fine coat. Lovely natured.

### **II.Ch Eurabbie Hermione /118/**

Black/ white of lovely quality, correct size and superb balance. Expressive head good in details. Trotting out freely, a bit careless about tail carriage on the move. Fine coat.

### **III.Gd Ch Remwin Senajay /117/**

Quality female of very nice overall balance. Pretty, feminine head with nice expression. Moves reasonably but needs a bit more extension. Correct, fine coat texture.

## **Veteran Bitch 10 Years & Over**

### **I.Jebelmarra Fresh Trash /121/**

Outstanding specimen of the breed. Oozes quality and correct breed type. Perfectly balanced head, correct in all details & beautiful in expression. Very sound quarters fully used on the move in free & tireless stride. Correct coat, pliant skin.

### **II.Ch Nonaym Ultra Unique /120/**

Very pleasing type and lovely proportioned body. Expressive head. Good condition and sound movement. A bit heavier coat. Very friendly.

### **III.Nonaym What A Stunner /122/**

Very feminine and nicely balanced. Pleasing expression. Moves reasonably but a bit soft topline on the move. Nice, sleek coat. Well tempered.

## **Class 18 Neutered Dog**

### **I.Tocayo Jeter /124/**

Too tall but correctly balanced. Expressive, masculine head. Moves reasonably. A bit soft topline. Fine coat. Friendly.

### **II.Ch Gaelifrey Silent Majority /123/**

Rather large but well proportioned body. Masculine, strong head; good expression. Moves well. Lovely, fine coat. Good temperament.

## **Class 18A Neutered Bitch**

### **Ch Gaelifrey Syncopation /128/**

I Very pretty female of pleasing size and overall balance. Nice, feminine head, good expression. Correct movement. Fine, sleek coat. Well tempered.

### **II.Pukkanut Wirra Wirra /125/**

Nice outline, short coupled body. Feminine head, good expression. Free and sound mover. Correct, fine coat. Very friendly.

### **III.Pukkanut Lakes Folly /236/**

Pretty, feminine head a shade too fine in foreface. Nice topline. Moves freely with good extension. Nice, fine coat. Pleasing temperament.