



## The Bermuda Kennel Club

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### Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Bermuda Dogs at Crufts 2012

Bermuda Dogs had a presence at CRUFTS Dog Show last month for the first time ever.

Crufts, presented by the (British) Kennel Club is the world's largest dog show with over 22,000 dogs competing and exhibiting in a variety of disciplines. The Bermuda Kennel Club (BKC) October Dog Shows were Qualifiers for Crufts for the first time. The qualifying dogs, from each of the four Bermuda conformation shows, were: All Group Winners (1st's), Best Puppy in Show and Best Veteran in Show.

Twenty dogs qualified, and three (3) actually competed: all in the Hound Group, one Whippet and two Salukis. There were 390 Whippets entered (191 Dogs, 199 Bitches) and 132 Salukis (63 Dogs, 69 Bitches).

### **Kathy Williams' Bermuda Bred Whippet Whispa (Bda. Ch. Winton Wishful Whisper)**

Whispa competed in the Veteran Class which is for dogs not less than seven years old. The Veteran Bitches class was large with 19 Entries. Whispa, at the grand old age of 13, was the second oldest in the ring and did us all proud, even if she was a bit chilly.

### **Carole & Ian Havercroft's Saluki Myth (Sivendra Dayyah at Dragonsmoon)**

Myth competed in Special Juniors, for dogs of eight and not exceeding eighteen months of age. This was a class of his peers including two brothers. Myth took Reserve Dog (4th Place) and was presented with a Crufts Certificate.

### **Kathy Williams' Saluki Kali (Bda. Ch. Ulmarra Tropical Ice at Winton)**

Because Kali is a Bermuda Champion she was entered in the Open Bitches Class; this was a very strong class with some mature and experienced dogs. Kali was the youngest dog in this class and looked great. Kathy & Kali also went on to show at the Irish Kennel Club's Celtic Winners Show in Dublin Ireland. Kali won Best Saluki Bitch gaining a "Green Star" and went on to win Reserve Saluki, or Best of Opposite Sex as it is known on this side of the world.

All three of the Bermuda dogs also competed in the 2k running race at Crufts organised by Canix. Canix is running with your dog or canine cross-country: the dogs wear a harness connected by a bungee-style lead to their humans who wear a waist/hip belt ...and the dog runs in front and pulls like a sled dog.

**The Crufts "Cani-Cross"** began in the Main Arena. Our Bermuda supporters (of which there were about twenty) in the ring as helpers and in the audience gave great roars of encouragement and flag waving as each Bermuda pair set off. The beginning of the event was televised with each pair showing up on the Arena's big screen TV and, when the Canix announcer heard the first roar of approval by the Bermuda supporters as the first Bermuda pair entered the arena she announced... *"I think that's probably the people from Bermuda – I see the Bermuda Flag."*

You can see that at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CZYO-SRoF0k>

At each event the Bermuda Flags were proudly flying high: on the benches, on backpacks, in the arena and even on the dogs coats.

**We are VERY grateful to British Airways Bermuda who sponsored the dog's freight charges to the UK.**

Please see attached several photos but if you would like us to bring the dogs for a group photo we would be happy to do that.

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