

## The Southern Pointer Club Championship Show

29<sup>th</sup> July 2007

### Bitches

I thoroughly enjoyed my day judging bitches at this very well organised and friendly Show. It was so nice to hear a round of applause for the winners in each class, which gave a lovely atmosphere to the Show. It is 20 months since I last judged the breed and I found a lovely quality entry of bitches for me to run my hands over. I found that profile movement has improved, but there is still a problem with front and rear movement. And what has happened to the straight beesting tail, set on as a continuation of the topline? Also, my old bugbear of haunch bones – in some bitches I just could not find them. Having said that I found lots of bitches with the desired flowing lines required by the standard. And strong toplines, which are so important in this breed.

The Pointer is not a glamour breed, but nevertheless they should have an elegant look to them. *The Characteristics section of the Breed Standard calls for the Pointer to be: Aristocratic. Alert with appearance of strength, endurance and speed.* This is something that should never be forgotten. They are a galloping breed and were bred to hunt over moorland and wide open spaces searching for game, and the Breed Standards were originally written with this in mind, not for the aesthetic look of the dog. They should be 'fit for purpose'.

I love all Pointers but, when judging, decisions have to be made on the day. Sadly some young bitches were going through an unbalanced stage and so paid the penalty. Others have not attained their expected potential, but thus it will always be and, at the end of the day, there is NO PERFECT DOG. Thank you to everyone who brought their lovely bitches for me to run my hands over.

### Minor Puppy (6)

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Isherwoods SYMITRY WHITE ORCHID. 8 month o/w with clean lines. Pleasing head and expression. Fine leathers. Long neck leading into well angled forequarters. Neat tail. Moved okay.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Baillie & Earls MEDOGOLD SPEAK SOFTLY. 8 month b/w. Feminine head and expression. Lovely body shape. Well boned legs, preferred her feet to 1<sup>st</sup>. Good tail. A little erratic on the move.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Welchs PONTE EXTRA SPECIAL WITH HOOKWOOD. 8 month l/w. Solidly made puppy. Well angled shoulder and upper arm. Good reach of neck. Excellent feet and pasterns. Neat tail. Plainer in head than 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Would prefer better hind angulation. Moved well.

## **Puppy (13)**

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Roses RIDANFLIGHT RANGIORA. 11 months o/w with lovely flowing lines. Feminine head and melting expression. Thin leathers. Super neck and shoulders. Short coupled. Steady mover. Best Puppy Bitch and in agreement with my co-judge, **Best Puppy in Show**.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Wilkinsons HURWYN SCISSOR SISTER. 9 month old b/w. So little to choose between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lovely head and well shaped dark eye. Long neck. Excellent angulation. Strong topline. Tail could perhaps have been a little shorter. Good feet and pasterns. Moved well.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Wilberg & Blackburn-Bennetts BRADGATE MYSTIC MAUKA AT KANIX. 10 month b/w. Super puppy. Beautiful body shape although heavier build than 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Long neck. Pleasing head and eye. Good feet and pasterns. Neat tail. Could have moved with more drive.

## **Junior (9)**

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Blackburn-Bennetts CHESTERHOPE NORTH 'N' BREEZE AT KANIX. 14 month o/w. Elegant bitch with lovely flowing lines. Sweet head and expression. Well angulated fore and aft. Deep brisket. Shade long in body for perfect balance. Good legs and feet. Neat tail carried a shade high. Moved well.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Youngs HAWKFIELD TIARA. 15 month b/w. Feminine head and expression. Thin leathers. Not as mature as 1<sup>st</sup> but has lots of time on her side. Excellent forequarters. Better balance in body than 1<sup>st</sup>. Short coupled. Good legs and feet, sloping pasterns. Just needs to make up behind.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Milfords HARAMANDER TANGERINE DREAM. 15 month o/w. Another sweet head and eye. Well shaped body with deep brisket. Doesn't need to grow on. Preferred hindquarters of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Yearling (9)**

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Wilkinsons HURWYN EAU DE COLOGNE. O/w. What a lovely bitch this is to go over. Super flowing lines. Well angulated fore and aft. Short coupled. Strong topline. Head well chiselled with well defined stop. Thin leathers. Would just like shade longer muzzle for perfect balance. Good feet and legs. Lovely low set hocks. Moved very well.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Barkers FLINTHILL WILD THYME. B/w. This is another lovely bitch. Made in a slightly heavier mould but still so very feminine. Flowing lines from nose to tail. Good forechest. Sweet head. Preferred expression on this bitch. Low set hocks. Moved well. Close decision between these two.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Symonds TOMLOW SHALL WE DANCE TO TANAFEI. Very nice b/w. Well angled shoulder and upper arm. Well boned legs. Good feet and pasterns. Prefer better hind angulation.

## **Maiden (6)**

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Barkers FLINTHILL JENNY WREN. Very promising b/w puppy. Much happier in this class and consequently moved so much better. Lovely head and expression. Nicely constructed with excellent ribcage and depth of brisket. Good forechest. Just needs to firm up behind to complete the picture.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Williams & Wilbergs RIDANFLIGHT RUPARA AT KANIX. Very promising o/w puppy. Super head and eye. Long neck. Well angulated shoulder and upper arm. Well turned stifle. Good feet. Neat tail. Just pipped by 1<sup>st</sup> on movement.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Barrs-Gordons PANOPLY TIMED TO PERFECTION. Sweet b/w youngster. Very raw at this stage. Such a feminine head and expression with pronounced occiput. Ample reach of neck, good topline finished off with a neat tail. Happy showgirl. Moved okay.

## **Novice (6)**

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Welchs PONTE EXTRA SPECIAL WITH HOOKWOOD.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Barrs-Gordons PANOPLY TIMED TO PERFECTION.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Stangrooms MEDOGOLD WANNABE POSH FOR LAPPAKIA. B/w. Lovely outline on this bitch but hind action let her down. Also, she doesn't need to grow on.

## **Undergraduate (8)**

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Siddles WILCHRIMANE DARK SILK. Lovely unexaggerated b/w. Placed her 1<sup>st</sup> in Minor Puppy when I judged her last time and my opinion hasn't changed. Lovely head and eye, neat thin leathers. Good reach of neck leading into well angled shoulders with excellent forechest. Deep brisket with ample spring of rib. Good feet and pasterns. Moved so well holding her topline. Loved her carriage on the move. **RCC**.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Wilkinson & O'Neills HURWYN I HEARD A RUMOUR. This o/w moved really well. Unfortunately she doesn't make the most of herself in the ring. I get the feeling she is fighting her handler all the way. Pleasing head and eye. Long neck leading into excellent shoulder placement. Good legs and feet with sloping pasterns. Different in type to 1<sup>st</sup>.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Youngs AURICHALCUM TWO TO TANGO. Very stylish l/w. Pleasing head and expression. Fine leathers. Lovely neck leading into well balanced body. Super legs and feet with nicely sloping pasterns. Just slopes off a little over croup.

## **Post Graduate (13)**

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Coggins MEDOGOLD BEWITCHED TO GEMROSE. Stylish b/w shown in lovely condition. Feminine head and eye. Flowing lines showing correct angulation finished off with a good tail. Well boned legs, better feet than 2<sup>nd</sup>. Moved well.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Tibbs TOBERDONEY JESSICA AT RAIGMORE. Another lovely b/w who gained this place on her super effortless movement. Pleasing head and eye. Very nicely put together with long neck, super forechest, deep brisket and well bent stifle. She is just off a litter and so not in tip top condition. Could do to gain a few pounds.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Tannahills WYNBURY TOO HOT TO TANGO. Compact b/w. Lovely head and eye. Nicely turned lip. Good angles, deep brisket, well sprung rib. Short coupled. Strong topline. Excellent turn of stifle. Just pipped on movement.

#### **Mid Limit (4)**

- Four very nice bitches here, all with something to offer the breed.

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Guy & Walkers TEISGOL PHOENIX AT CAROFEL. Beautiful b/w. So very feminine with flowing lines from nose to tail. Exquisite head and expression with beautiful chiselling, well defined stop and nicely turned lip. Fine leathers, set on correctly. Excellent body properties. Good legs and feet with nicely sloping pasterns. Well turned stifle, low set hocks. Strong topline. Shown in gleaming condition. Moved well. Close up in the challenge.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Macmanus CROOKRISE ARRAN AT LUNEVILLE. Very typy o/w. Another very feminine bitch with beautiful head and expression. Lovely turn of lip, fine leathers set on well. Just not quite the balance in body of 1<sup>st</sup>. Good legs, feet and sloping pasterns. Shown in lovely hard condition. Correct bee-sting tail although would prefer better set on, but she carries it well.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Drakes CLAMERKIN CLASSY CERELIA. B/w. Another lovely bitch with a curvaceous outline. Well angulated. Strong topline finished off with a neat tail well set on. Not quite the head of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Would also like her a shade smaller.

#### **Limit (11)**

**1<sup>st</sup>** - Wilkinsons FOWINGTON TWEED WITH HURWYN. This b/w bitch is a favourite of mine. So very feminine and of such lovely type. Flowing lines from the tip of her nose to a beautiful tail, set on correctly. Well angulated shoulder and upper arm showing forechest. Deep brisket with well sprung rib. Short coupled. Good feet and legs with nicely sloping pasterns. Lovely low set hocks. Just tends to lose her topline which pegged her back in the challenge.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Edmondsons CROOKRISE WHITE LACE. Another beautiful bitch in this strong class. Very elegant o/w with a lovely well chiselled head, although to be critical, she is a shade broad in skull. Long, clean neck. Well angulated forequarters. Deep brisket with good spring of rib. Short coupled. Not quite the rear angulation and tail set of 1<sup>st</sup>. Super shaped tail. Moved very well. I love her type and carriage on the move.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Hamblings SHANANDI TABASCO WITH CHASEOVER. This b/w is another favourite of mine but just pipped on movement today. Beautiful head and eye with nicely turned lip and thin leathers. Curvaceous outline that just flows through. Super angulation fore and aft. Not much to fault with this bitch.

## Open (9)

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Westrons AURICHALCUM THE AVENGER. This very elegant o/w just took over the ring today with her stunning outline and powerful, effortless movement. She went round the ring with lovely head carriage, eating up the ground with a long stride, accurate footfall and really driving from her hocks. She has such a clean outline with all the curves in the right places. Strong topline finished off with a beautiful tail set on well, which she used beautifully. To be critical I wouldn't want to see her any bigger but nonetheless she is not lacking in femininity. **CC, her fourth.**

On the referee's decision the Dog went BIS but, in agreement with my co-judge, the bitch took RBIS.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Westaways SH.CH. TYCARREG SARAH FORTUNE BY PENWEST. Very feminine o/w. Real workmanlike bitch this one but in no way does this detract from her obvious quality. Quite the opposite in fact. She moves easily on super legs and feet carrying her neat tail beautifully.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Tibbs RAIGMORE CUTTY SARK. Have always admired this beautiful b/w, but what a heartache she must be for her owner/handler. She has a lovely head and eye with well set thin leathers. Long neck flowing into a curvaceous body. Super topline which she keeps on the move and a well set tail which she carries beautifully, until she decides not to co-operate.

**Veteran (7)** – What a lovely class.

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Nadens SH.CH. TRENDMERE DARK STAR OVER WYCHWOOD. Sweet headed b/w with a lovely eye and expression. Fine leathers. Ample reach of neck into well angulated front and rear construction. Excellent depth of brisket and well sprung ribcage. Moved well on good legs and feet. Just lost her 'get up and go' when it came to the challenge for BVIS, which went to the dog in agreement with my co-judge.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Wilkinsons SH.CH. HURWYN CREPE SUZETTE. Very feminine o/w with a beautiful head and expression. Long neck leading into a shapely body, with excellent spring and depth to ribcage. Good legs, feet and pasterns. Moved well, using her lovely tail.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Preeces SH.CH. PIPEAWAY SOLAR CORONA OVER HARVESTSLADE. Very stylish o/w with a lovely outline. Another with the desired flowing lines and all the curves in the right places. She is top size for my personal preference but nevertheless not lacking in femininity.

The following three classes were judged jointly – such a shame that there was only 1 entry in each class.

**Brace (1)** – Gordons well matched b/w's. Went round the ring beautifully together.

**Team (1)** – Gordons still very well matched b/w's. Same as above but this time there were three.

**Special Stud Dog (1)** – Barrs-Gordons Panoply Dancing Brave. This dog is a favourite of mine. Lovely to see one of his daughters slip her lead but then carry on round the ring anyway. Obviously very well trained.

***Linda Wilson (Judge).***