National Gundog Champ Show Saturday 1st August 2009

It was a shame the weather was not good for this show & I made the decision to judge inside, although at one time it did stop raining & I thought of taking the bitches outside, but then decided to be fair so all exhibits had the same conditions.

The ring was large enough to see the action on a straight up & down & around the ring.

On the down side I was very disappointed with the soft & overweight condition of many of the exhibits & their very poor movement.

On the plus side the quality of many of the winning bitches was superb & if they enter the breeding programme at some later date in time I see a very good future for our breed.

VETERAN DOG: (1)

1st: Masters & Pavey's Sh Ch Manchela Innuendo, b/w, well balanced, oval bone & feet, good sweep of hindquarters, tail of correct shape & moved smoothly.

MINOR PUPPY DOG (2,1a)

1st Williams & Rose's Ridanflight Revelation, b/w, stylish young man with lovely carriage as he went around, pronounced occiput, skull & muzzle of same length, kind eye with bright expression, lengthy arched neck, correct oval bone. Shoulders a little lumpy at this stage but I am sure this will correct with maturity. Strong loin & sweep of hindquarters, just a nice size for his age. BPD.

PUPPY DOG (8,2)

1st Osman's Wilchrimane Ace Ventura, b/w, well developed head & turn of lip, expression bright, arched neck, medium size, short smooth coat, couplings balanced. Would have preferred slightly longer toes. Action light & smooth;

2nd Hambling's Calderside Co-Pilot for Chaseover, b/w, kind & bright expression, head in proportion with pronounced occiput. More rangy than 1 with a longer stride in action. Could have been in harder condition:

3rd Siddle's Wilchrimane Black Ice.

JUNIOR DOG (7,1)

1st Simmon's Galema Highlander, b/w, won on his strength of body, power over loin & closer couplings. Just powered around the ring with his positive action. Would prefer just a little more refinement in skull;

2nd Tibbs' Raigmore Dusk Till Dawn, b/w, blanket marked, a much lighter longer dog than 1 but balanced all through. Very smooth in action & holds a good topline, correct oval bone & feet. Would prefer more width between the haunch bones;

3rd Westron's New Fragrance Do Vale Carvoiero at Aurichalcum.

YEARLING DOG (4,2)

1st Williams & Rose's Kanix Ace at Ridanflight, b/w, medium sized well balanced dog of correct conformation, oval bone & feet, kind in expression, smooth action;

2nd Simmon's Hurwyn Morning Glory at Honeywood, o/w with a stunning head & expression. Very immature & all over the place in action.

NOVICE DOG (4)

1st Calderside Co-Pilot for Chaseover:

2nd Theobald Kiswahili Kai at Tycarreg, b/w, medium size, in hard condition. Rather too much reach in front action. Sweeping hindquarters;

3rd Stangroom Lappakia Oasis Dream.

GRADUATE DOG Prizes witheld due to lameness of entrants.

POST GRADUATE DOG (10,3)

1st Smith's Lypal Pukka Tukka, b/w, won this class on his superb soundness of action which had power & smoothness, quite a big dog but so well balanced, his outline so smooth with correct angle of upper arm & sweeping hindquarters. I forgave the slightly high tail carriage because of his other good points;

2nd Drake's Clamerkin Crystal Mountain, b/w, dog I have previously admired from the ringside, looks good on the stack with everything in proportion, excellent head & expression, good tail shape. I was so disappointed when he came to move with his tiny little steps & the lack of propulsion:

3rd Westaway's Penwest Paden.

LIMIT DOG (9)

1st Udale's Freddie Flintoff, b/w, won on his overall shape, tight smooth skin, every muscle showing. A series of gentle curves from head to tip of tail, powers around the ring with effortless ease. Giving his handler a hard time. RCC;

2nd Langford's Papermill Cartridge, b/w, this is a dog who does not immediately catch the eye but once one goes over him he is beautifully constructed & balanced, moves so easily & correctly with good tail action & this is why he gained his place; 3rd O'Driscoll Fowington Five Bob Note.

OPEN DOG (5)

1st Walkling's Penwest Phineas at Kiswahili, I/w who is masculine yet has a touch of quality, balanced from tip of nose to tip of tail, a series of gentle curves, wide nostrils, kind soft expression, small high set ears, arched neck, correct set of upper arm & lay back of shoulders, well sprung ribs & great depth of chest, his power in action comes from his strength of loin & muscular long well turned stifles. CC;

2nd Brophy's Ir Ch Saregresi Classic Point, o/w to whom I have previously awarded an RCC, I still like him & he is of a classic type with a slightly dished face appearance. When compared side by side with 1 just did not flow as much in outline. Light effortless action; 3rd Wilson's Bonnygate Imperial Choice.

VETERAN BITCH (5)

1st Tarling Teisgol Angels Song, 9 years b/w of superb type from her dished face, small ears, arched neck, to her well balanced body, & the most active tail on the move. I now remember I gave her an RCC in her much younger days. BV;

2nd Fox's Whipspan Anna Pavlova of Dappleline, o/w of excellent type, sound smooth action; 3rd Milford's Haramander Amber Alert.

MINOR PUPPY BITCH (1)

1st Vicarey's Jilony Just Unique, correct head type & kind expression, well balanced body. As yet her feet need to tighten.

PUPPY BITCH (14) The quality of the first three bitches was superb & I look forward to following their careers in the future.

1st Blackburn-Bennett's Kanix Beatrice, superbly balanced b/w, just a year old on the day, more mature than the two below but not too mature for her age as the best is yet to come. I loved her head & expression her high set ears & pronounced occiput, arched neck let into well placed shoulders, she has oval bone, good length of toe on an oval shaped foot, excellent upper arm, smooth outline, tailset & holds her topline on the move:

2nd Ingham's Calderside Yours Truly, I/w, slightly younger & a more rangy bitch. What a perfect outline, a series of gentle curves from nose to tail, lovely to see such active tail action which very few had on the day. My deciding factor between the two were the more perfect feet of 1. Again I predict a great future for this bitch;

3rd Simmons' Calderside Songbird at Honeywood, I/w, superb head type, with round kind eye, small thin ears, & pronounced occiput. Unfortunately her handler did not do her justice but still one could see the quality there.

JUNIOR BITCH (8,3)

1st Craik's Scobec Pure Passion, o/w, of excellent type having all the hallmarks. Once she settled into her movement moved correctly;

2nd Walton's Galema Gael at Pointmoor, I/w, so clean in her outline with a tight skin & bodylines, at the leggy stage at the moment but can only improve with age; 3rd Weaver's Anniezu Everlasting Love.

YEARLING BITCH (10,2) Deciding between the first two was one of the hardest decisions of the day. In fact the first three were out of the top drawer.

1st Anderson Rowell's Wyndhead Mette Marit, o/w, oozing with quality, her head & expression so fits the Standard, her bodylines are so clean with tight skin, all her parts fit together in unison, moves so smooth & effortless;

2nd Cardiff's Prosperity Sheer Elegance, I/w, so well balance & feminine, tight bodylines, shown naturally on her own when she never put a foot wrong. Maybe she had the edge over the loin & the winner just the edge in head. One with the most perfect feet & pasterns. Both I am sure should have a very bright future:

3rd Tibbs' Raigmore Let It Shine.

NOVICE BITCH (12,1)

1st Cardiff's Prosperity Sheer Elegance;

2nd Simmon's Calderside Songbird at Honeywood;

3rd Welch Hookwood Back To Black.

GRADUATE BITCH (5,2)

1st Mason's Freebreeze As You Like It, I/w, good overall shape & moves soundly, but I would like to see more sparkle;

2nd Tarling's Esrews Van Laurel, o/w, very typical, at the moment immature but when she comes together she will give a different picture;

3rd Young's Hawkfield Tiara.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (22,1) A huge class which was not the easiest to judge, many in this class were carrying too much weight, soft in condition & unsound in action. The first two were way ahead of the others in their soundness in action & firm muscular condition.

1st Westaway's Penwest Phedra, I/w, very workmanlike bitch with strength yet quality, good eye colour, her overall shape flows, has depth of brisket & correct forehand, very strong over the loin, sweeping muscular hindquarters, moves smoothly with power & purpose, the same way bred as my DCC & just a feminine version;

2nd Young's Aurichalcum The Reflection, I/w, so sound in action, with clean bodylines & every muscle showing through her tight firm body, an old fashioned type of liver rarely seen these days, I wish there were more like her;

3rd Heaton's Brackenstyle Deuce.

LIMIT BITCH (11,3) Again the quality of this class was so good with the four placed top class bitches who all in time should have a great future.

1st Tarling's Esrews Rhyming, lightly marked b/w. I could not take my eyes off this quality bitch as soon as she came into the ring, 3 years old & just correct for her age, everything in proportion her outline just stood out & this is what makes a Pointer special, not pulled or pushed into shape by her handler as she could not stand wrong, when going over her I found her head to be have all the hallmarks of the breed & such a gentle kind expression, knife edged oval bone, going to springy pasterns, smooth balanced action & I was so delighted that she had inherited her mothers (who was my BV) lashing tail action. One I would like to own. CC & BOB; 2nd Tobin's Davigdor Patience, o/w, one I have admired from the ring side but never judged before, bigger, more rangier bitch & as yet not fully mature, or just fitting together as smoothly when compared with 1. Free striding action. She needs a little more time; 3rd Barker's Flinthill Jenny Wren.

OPEN BITCH (9,2)

1st Huxley's Woodfleet Siennarain, I/w who I have judged before & placed, very feminine, no doubting what sex she is, so well balanced & put together, not exaggerated in any way, kind expression, small high set ears, arched clean neck, smooth over the shoulders, strong over the loin, superb feet & pasterns, smooth action. RCC;

2nd Nelis' Ansona Nobody's Fool at Freebreeze, I/w who powered around the ring with the most lovely tail action, superb bodylines, excellent forehand, depth of chest & well sprung ribs, firm over the loin, coming up to her best;

3rd Siddle's Wilchrimane Dark Silk.

CICELY A ROBERTSHAW - Judge