

SETTER AND POINTER CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

Saturday 4th November 2017

It was a great honour and privilege to judge this iconic breed at one of my favourite shows. It was forty-three years ago that I showed at my first show; the Setter and Pointer Open show, no Championship show in those days. I still have vivid memories of the day and the two firsts, which were responsible for everything that has made for a great hobby, which has been so absorbing and all embracing. I thank the committee for their kind invitation and the efficient stewards David and June Nash who kept the ring in order all day.

I really enjoyed this judging assignment, the breed is still one of the most athletic in the group and one I much admire. I thank the exhibitors for being so sporting. There was some variation in type but with a good number of 105 making 147 entries there was plenty to go at. The description in the standard of a series of graceful curves is always at the forefront of my mind, but I was also looking for Pointers which have the unique head with plenty of work, the bee sting tail at the other end and those which possessed what we are led to believe, to be correct construction to deliver endurance galloping movement, translated to a good trotting style in the ring, condition and good muscle tone, is essential but sadly sometimes a little lacking. Temperaments were by and large good and on reflection I was pleased with this super entry, there was quality in depth throughout all ages with some very special youngsters, which will make their mark.

VETERAN DOG (2, 1 abs)

1st Harrison's Sh Ch Millpoint Top Hat N'Tails JW ShCM. B/W well over 7 years of age, although he stood alone, he was full of quality, masculine, of really good type, with good all-round conformation, he moves with true Pointer attitude. I liked his head, with plenty of work in it, balanced with good ear leathers and nice dark eye. He has a good length of neck, suitably arched, flowing on into a good topline, he has a good brisket and with a good bend of stifle. On the move he had good hind action but not quite the enthusiasm in front of the bitch when it came to best Veteran. Responsible for producing both Dog and Bitch CC, clearly he has a lot going for him as a producer.

MINOR PUPPY DOG (6, 2 abs) A good class with puppies at different stages of development.

1st Hazeltine & Welch's Pytahley Chasing The Dream for Hookwood - I liked this stylish young typy male, B/W 7 months old, with a good outline. I liked his head shape, balanced, with a decent stop and strong muzzle, nicely shaped. He has a good reach of neck, into good shoulders, pleasing topline and tail set. His chest is of a good width and his front legs are straight with good oval bone. He is developing a good spring of rib, strong loin, and a he has good hind angulation, with firm rear pasterns, delivering strong hind action and reasonably collected front movement with reach. Best Puppy Dog.

2nd Philo's Fydal Caprio at Salmonmist, O/W Another really nice youngster but a real baby, of really good type, slightly shorter coupled than 1, but not quite as composed on the move, I gave him a lot of latitude in calming down. He has a very good head and muzzle, quite a lot of work in head, with decent eye colour and good pigmentation, a decent stop, ears quite low set in repose though. He has a pleasing topline, good lay of shoulders, his chest descends to elbows, he too is developing a good body shape but perhaps not quite as mature at this time in comparison to 1. He has pleasing straight forelegs with good pasterns and super feet. In the rear he has a decent bend of stifle and shown in a good textured coat. He has lots of potential, but definitely needs a little firmer handling.

3rd Dunn's Meadowpoint Look to the Star.

PUPPY DOG (8, 1 abs) Difficult class.

1st Saunders' Phlynnies Prince of Thieves. Liked this immature B/W male, of good size and shape, with a very good outline. He had a fairly nice head with prominent occiput, good stop and dark eye, with plenty of work around eye, with very good muzzle length with slight dish to muzzle. He has a good ear set, a strong reachy neck, decent topline, with a reasonable body shape and short loin. I would like more width and slightly more depth of chest certainly compared to the MPD winner, but he has quality straight oval bone and tight feet. I liked his relatively short tail. Liked his coat texture. When stacked make sure his front legs are well under him. Moved well in this competition.

2nd Philo's Fydal Caprio at Salmonmist.

3rd Bell & Maddox's Luneville Dazzling Diamond at Owlspoint

JUNIOR DOG (9)

1st Adams' Millpoint Simply Smashing JW - Liked this one a lot, oozes type, a tallish male, with good outline, flows together with a pleasing topline and tail set. I liked his balanced head with good length of muzzle, he has a lovely dark eye, very intelligent expression, he has a decent stop and a visible occiput. He has good length of neck, into very good shoulders. I liked his good body shape, deep brisket, straight forelegs with super feet. His hindquarters are well angulated and he is a spirited mover, who goes really well.

2nd Martin's Sunhouse Chips Ahoy. This O/W strikingly marked dog really appeals. His profile epitomises what an athlete should look like, in prime condition, one of the best muscled to day. He has a super head and expression, with lovely work in skull and very nice back skull, decent stop and pleasing bright eye and expression, with a decent muzzle length and good flews. He is clean in throat, with a good length of neck, but not quite the topline of 1, his elbows could be a tad tighter, which will happen as he continues to develop in body. He has very good lay of shoulder, good width of chest, his front legs have good oval bone and strong pasterns, he has excellent hindquarters. Boy can he move with strength and purpose. A bright future awaits.

3rd Bird's Medogold Burn Baby Burn at Vinepoint.

YEARLING DOG (1)

1st Booth's Lundgarth Teal. This fifteen-month O/W male stood alone, he is a square shaped boy, who just needs time to fill in the middle part. He has a nice head, good stop, prominent occiput, dark eye but large and slightly rounded for me, a square muzzle and moderately well-set ears. I liked his clean neck, good forehead, straight forelegs, with lovely feet. He has a sloping topline, with a bit of a slight break along it, he has quite a lot of tuck up. I would like more length of rib cage but he has a medium long loin. He was well muscled with good perpendicular rear pasterns. Moved quite well.

NOVICE DOG (6) A little disappointing class

1st Philo's Fydal Caprio at Salmonmist.

2nd Bell & Maddox's Luneville Dazzling Diamond at Owlspoint. O/W Not totally dissimilar in look from 1, a little over square in outlook, with a pleasing head, good stop, occiput and expression, with decent stop, has a good length of neck, levelish topline, deep chest and short loin, just lacked a little width of second thigh compared to one. He moved quite well and was well presented.

3rd Dunn's Meadowpoint Look to the Star.

GRADUATE DOG (4) This class gave me a lot of food for thought and perhaps was the most frustrating.

1st Walls Meadowpoint Spirit of fire - B/W male, just over three years of age. I like his overall size, substance and shape, with a short loin and he covered the ground well. He had a pronounced occiput, I found his skull shape from the front gave him a bit of a houndy look for me, he had a good stop, dark eye, but with some pink in it. He had a medium length of neck, a levelish topline and reasonably good tail set. Whilst he had heart room. I think he needed slightly more fill of chest to reduce the amount of freedom in elbows. He has straight oval bone of good quality and nicely angulated rear quarters.

2nd Collins' Collholme John Paul B/W tallish and leggy male, moved quite erratically in front, but with drive behind. He had a reasonably good outline, with decent head and expression, medium reach of neck, decent shoulders, with good rib shape, short loin, straight forelegs with compact feet and good hindquarters.

3rd Kelly's Kelval Kato.

POST GRADUATE DOG (6, 1 abs)

1st Batchelor's Wilchrimane Clickety Click to Kielderpoint. A very nice male built on a series of graceful curves, very nice size and shape, lovely outline. A male with a very nice head, balanced, some good work in skull, eyes bright and dark, he has a good stop, his muzzle is strong and compliments his skull. He has good ear leathers. I liked his good reach of neck, pleasing shoulders, decent topline, some forechest and has a short loin which are all positives. I liked his rugged hindquarters with muscle tone and tight feet. He moved well.

2nd Lathwell's Tinchitamba A Waiting Game Smaller framed B/W in hard condition, workmanlike, pleasing outline and a lovely mover with strength and purpose. He has a very good head, stop and muzzle, with a dark eye and good expression. His neck was a good shape, into pleasing shoulders, he did not quite have the depth of chest of 1 but had a good underline. Strong hindquarters. Shown in super condition.

3rd Saunders' Teisgol Double Trigger.

LIMIT DOG (12, 1 abs)

1st Hazeltine & Welch's Just Wilburt by Hookwood JW ShCM. Has the lot, first class young male at three years of age, superbly handled to get the best out of him. I loved his outline, everything just flows together. I loved the shape of his head and muzzle, not overly keen on his head markings, but if you can see past that you get a very balanced head with medium breadth, with good stop, pleasing bright eye and intelligent expression, good shape to muzzle, very nicely shaped neck of good length, decent shoulders and a strong topline, held well on the move. He has a decent underline and rugged hindquarters with good muscle tone, moderately short rear pasterns. You can really appreciate his body shape from above, carrying just the right amount of weight and in tip top condition. His movement was purposeful, technically correct, with good stride length, carrying his head well and a slashing tail. A joy. Will have no trouble getting his title. Res CC.

2nd Wilberg's Kanix Mario (AI) O/W Another first rate male, stunning outline, the right size and shape, oozes breed type, at only just two years of age, giving away just a little in body development to the slightly older male. With an excellent head, superb neck length with good shape into good shoulders, steeper topline than 1, correct tail set, best of bone and feet. He has a deep chest, reasonable spring of rib, has a medium length of loin. He has well-muscled hindquarters with the correct angulation and strong rear pasterns. A super mover, so very exciting.

3rd Rose's Ridanflight Roller Blade.

OPEN DOG (9, 1 abs)

1st Harrison's Sh Ch Millpoint Heat Wave JW ShCM. B/W loved this mature, typy six year old male, with super head and expression lovely dark eye, good strong muzzle with slight dish, good reach of neck, good strong topline, well developed body, with deep ribs and short loin, good underline, pleasing straight forelegs of good oval bone and compact feet, mature, straight forelegs, super pasterns and compact feet, excellent hindquarters, uses his tail well on the move, covered the ground well, has drive and reach. A combination of good breed type and movement without exaggeration. Dog CC

2nd Hazeltine & Upton's Sh Ch Hookwood By George JW ShCM. O/W Another super bodied dog, excellent conformation, a cracking mover, which fits the standard well. Just preferred the slightly more work in skull of 1, but a very worthy Show Champion, clean lines no exaggeration.

3rd Cummings' Ir Sh Ch Kanix Kroner at Sevenhills Jnr Ch CW 16/17 AN Ch 15/16

FIELD TRIAL DOG OR BITCH (2, 1 abs)

1st Jacques' Koram Gemma Sparkfield. Built for speed, endurance and no doubt has positive working abilities, smaller and finer than most, but with a pleasing head and nice dark eye giving a good expression, feminine, but a little nervous to go over, moved well around the ring once she settled. The handler must get her over her nerves.

SPECIAL WORKING GUNDOG DOG OR BITCH (2, 1 abs)

1st Jacques' Koram Gemma Sparkfield.

VETERAN BITCH (1)

1st Blackburn Bennett's Sh Ch Kanix Chilli. Stunning, strong outline, hard to imagine she is now in Veteran, with a very good head, lovely chiselling around eye, good shape to muzzle with dish effect, large dark nose, good stop and the loveliest expression, she has good ear leather, a strong neck with good arch, excellent shoulders, forechest, with straight oval bone, super feet, correct topline and set on of tail. She has a lovely shaped body strong loin and excellent hindquarters with good muscle tone. I liked her relatively short tail. What an excellent mover. Best Veteran in breed, Best Veteran in Show a good decision.

2nd Dunn's Meadowpoint Spirit Dancer ShCM - B/W very nice type, with a good outline, very good feminine head, balanced, with a good stop, dark eye, good length of muzzle, good ear shape. She has a pleasing reach of neck, levelish topline, but a little lacking in angulation of upper arm for me, she does have decent depth of body, strong loin, moderate bend of stifle, with shortish rear pasterns. I liked her firm body, good croup. On the move she covered the ground well, but was not quite as positive in front movement.

3rd Booth's Galema Iona.

MINOR PUPPY BITCH (7, 1 abs)

1st Siddle & Crocker's Wilchrimane Pirouette Wow, wow, O/W, Fabulous bitch, superb type, very good balanced head with good work in skull, nice dark eye, expression bright and intelligent, lovely reach of neck, good shoulders & underline. She has a very good body shape, with good width of chest and sweeping hindquarters, with strong rear pasterns. She moved so well and is such an exciting prospect, with a no messing attitude she gave a good performance. Lost out a little in maturity for best puppy, but very close.

2nd Stokes' Hawkfield Castaspell Over Guanabara. She certainly cast a spell today, nice & short-coupled L/W built on square galloping lines, with a good head, plenty of work, good stop, dark eye, with good flews. She has a long neck, good shoulders and topline, everything just blends together without a break. She has good oval bone and tight feet. I liked her good bend of stifle and strong rear hocks, she moved well, in a very puppyish style, when settled to the job at hand. Developing along really good lines.

3rd Rayner, Spinks & Pringle's Gartarry High Society at Spinray

PUPPY BITCH (5, 1 abs)

1st McCourt's Kanix Opihr Super O/W bitch from any angle, has a really good head, very balanced, with a good stop, pleasing dark eye, very expressive with good pigmentation, lovely length of muzzle. She has very good conformation, firm topline, with good depth and width of chest and spring of ribs, with slightly visible haunch bones, she has a short strong loin, excellent hindquarters, good length of leg, to depth of body. Loved this bitch. Best puppy, feminine with good shape everything flows. Well covered and muscled. With good textured coat. She has the stamp of quality.

2nd Rayner, Spinks & Pringle's Gartarry All That Jazz at Spinray B/W stylish youngster, loved the type, very good outline. She has a balanced head, stop and with a good expression, from a lovely dark eye, framed by a good ear set. She has a lovely reach of neck, pleasing firm topline and good forehead, with reasonable width of chest, she moved very well, will develop more in body, not quite the strength in hocks when stacked.

3rd Hinton & Lennox's Keepersfield Christelle With Fleurfield.

JUNIOR BITCH (3)

1st Siddle & Crocker's Wilchrimane Frankel (AI) Thirteen month old so beautiful and feminine, a blend of superior breed points, good conformation, coupled with a liberal dose of Pointer breed attitude, good head carriage and slashing tail coupled to good movement. I was captivated by her classical head and muzzle, just stunning, with the most beautiful expression from a lovely dark eye, lovely strong neck and correct topline, good angle to croup and tail set, shows some forechest, with a good brisket, straight forelegs of good oval bone, pleasing feet. Her ribs are good, she has a short loin and has rugged hindquarters, with short rear pasterns, try not to overstretch her. Her outline is good and she oozes breed type. Res CC.

2nd Harrison's Millpoint Simply Scrumptus JW L/W I really liked this typy bitch, with a super outline and lovely head properties and expression, she has a lovely reach of neck, arched, with good shoulders, pleasing topline and good body shape and short loin, she also has straight forelegs, good pasterns and really tight feet. I liked her hindquarters, with good turn of stifle and moderately short rear pasterns. Fractionally narrower in front than 1 and whilst her movement was good, she was not quite as positive in front as 1, but that's nit picking.

3rd Fleetwood's Millpoint Simply I Catching.

YEARLING BITCH (3, 1 abs) Two completely different types.

1st Huxley's Woodfleet Wild is the Wind - Medium sized, B/W bitch, which is still developing, although she looks a little raw, she is built for speed, lightish framed, short coupled, with a strong topline, good underline, with straight forelegs and reasonable hind angulation. She was a little erratic in front till she settled, but with good hind action. Her head is nicely balanced with reasonable stop, decent eye colour and good length of muzzle to head ratio.

2nd Matthews' Millpoint Simply Bootifull with Sonham. B/W coloured tallish bitch, elegant looking, she is longer in body, but everything about her is elegant. She has a feminine head with a good eye colour, good length of muzzle, long neck, but lacks a little bit in shape, she has a firm topline and a deep chest, with straight forelegs and tight feet. Needs careful handling when stacked looked a little bit like a rocking horse, which detracts just when you are making your decision. Quite a good mover though.

NOVICE BITCH (3, 1 abs)

1 Fleetwood's Millpoint Simply I Catching Third in a previous class, elegant and feminine, a little longer caste L/W. Has a pleasing head, longish neck which needed a bit more shape I felt. Neat shoulders, with decent width of chest but would like a fraction more depth of brisket, longish rib cage and good curve of underline, straight forelegs, a good bend of stifle with strong rear pasterns. She moved quite well.

2nd Cogan's Bradgate Take to the Hills. L/W bitch, very feminine a bit of a fidget, lovely shape to head and dish effect to muzzle. She has a good neck length, straight forelegs and with good spring of rib. In profile on the move she has a tendency to roach her topline, over her loin area, but she does make good use of her slashing tail action.

GRADUATE BITCH (8, 1 abs)

1st Dunn's Meadowpoint Spirit of Love JW ShCM. B/W, a quality, very nice typy bitch, lovely feminine head nicely shaped carefully moulded, good stop, dark eye, she has good ear leathers and a strong reachy neck, with a very gentle slope to her topline, good ribs, strong loin, with moderate hind angulation which were well muscled. She has good depth of brisket and reasonable good tuck up. She moves well.

2nd Martin's Sunhouse Cheerio. A little less cheerier and perhaps not so happy today. She is strikingly marked and very flashy in colour. I liked her head with plenty of work. She has a lovely dark eye and good stop. She has a reasonable length of neck, good shoulders and topline, with well-shaped ribs and medium length of loin, straight forelegs but a little too much angulation in pasterns for me, has rugged hindquarters with good hocks. She was a very good mover.

3rd Stangroom's Pipeaway Laura Louisa at Lappakia ShCM.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (11, 3 abs)

1st Liens' Kanix Lotus Via Reambeck. O/W, stood out in this class with a balanced outline with everything just flowing together. Attractive, typy, a beautiful headed feminine bitch, with a dark eye, good stop and pleasing muzzle shape, with good ear set, she has a good length of neck, good lay of shoulders, strong topline and good tail set, with a decent underline. She has good width of chest, straight forelegs of good oval bone and compact feet, she has good hindquarters with strong rear pasterns, with good all-round muscle tone. She moves with confidence and good deportment but crabbed a little at the start till she got into her stride pattern.

2nd Stilgoe & Oliver's Asterope Lightning Star Via Teisgol JW. Another super B/W bitch, very nice type, lovely head and expression, good ear leathers, decent flews. She has good arch to neck, good shoulders suggesting strength, with a pleasing topline and tail set. I liked her brisket, with good oval bone and small feet. She had sweeping hindquarters and moved well. Shown in good condition.

3rd Swannell's Sharnphilly Rio Bella.

LIMIT BITCH (6, 1 abs) Disappointed with some of the movement in this class.

1st Vaughn's Teisgol I am What I Am At Phlynnies - Pleasing type, B/W built for speed, lovely head and expression, strong slightly arched neck, good shoulders, correct topline and good angulation of rear quarters. With good depth of brisket and decent tuck up. Best of legs and feet. Moves freely with style.

2nd Bell's Ridanflight Runedd with Balintyne. Super type O/W bitch, with typical outline and the most classic head with plenty of work, lovely dark eye, good stop, decent occiput, good length of muzzle. I liked her good reach of neck, decent shoulders and topline. She also has straight forelegs and tight feet, but not quite the same covering and muscle tone in her loin and hindquarters. She moved OK but I was disappointed.

3rd Cooper's Carmandine Cover Girl by Fleurfield.

OPEN BITCH (9, 4 abs)

1st Dyer's Sh Ch Sharnphilly Juici Cuture JW. Lovely type, feminine, L/W everything blends well giving a good outline. She has a good head shape, correct intelligent expression, good ear set and decent muzzle to head ratio. Her neck has a good reach, nice lay of shoulders and good body shape, with the correct brisket and decent ribs. She has a strong loin, decent width of second thigh and good bend of stifle, medium length of hocks. She has good substance. One of her strongest assets is her movement, when the class was moving together she stands out for reach and drive maintaining her head carriage and using her tail well. Unlike others, when she was pushed she switched up a gear and you saw her really go for it, quite unique, without losing structure. CC, BOB and Best in Show, not surprised a good decision.

2nd Evans & Pavey's Joneva Mrs Bridges JW, medium sized stylish bitch, clean cut outline, with very good head and expression, she has good body shape, with no exaggeration. I liked her good bone and compact feet, shown in good condition and with a decent texture to coat. She moved well.

3rd Mackay's Federica Fanfare at Woodglade

MR CHRIS BEXON - Judge

BEST IN SHOW REPORT

I would like to thank the committee of the Setter and Pointer Club for honour of inviting me to judge BIS which I thoroughly enjoyed, and for their hospitality throughout the day. From a good line up my choice for BIS was the Pointer Sh.Ch. Sharnphilly Juici Cuture JW, a favourite of mine who I have placed highly before and today was pleased to reconfirm my opinion of her qualities. From her typical head she is a series of graceful curves through a well-constructed frame and presented a picture of balance and maturity, add to this her positive ground-covering stride she demanded BIS.

MR JOHN THIRLWELL - Best In Show Judge