

WEST OF ENGLAND LADIES KENNEL SOCIETY (WELKS) CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SHOW Sunday 30th April 2023

Firstly, I would like to thank all the exhibitors entered for giving me the opportunity to judge their beautiful Pointers. I would also like to thank the committee of WELKS and my super steward who worked so hard. There are a couple of things I felt I should mention before my overall critique. In general, mouths were good, but I was shocked by how many dogs had dirty teeth, particularly youngsters. I also saw lots of dogs with long nails which spoiled the foot shape. I noticed several dogs with cat feet, which may look good, but they are incorrect for the breed and not fit for function.

With regards to tails, the breed standard states “carried on a level with back, with no upward curl”. For me, this is an important feature of the breed and shouldn’t be overlooked, and so some exhibits were penalised for carrying tails over their backs as it spoils the overall picture.

On a positive note, we have some beautiful examples of the breed in the ring. If we can hold on to this super breed type, Pointers will continue to have a bright future.

BOB Wilchrimane Frankly Darlin (Miss, Mrs & Mrs Siddle, Siddle & Medeiros)
DCC Stocksfell Chase The Ace (Mrs A J Wybergh)
RDCC Teisgol Keep On Going via Penwest JW (Miss Westaway)
BCC Wilchrimane Frankly Darlin (Miss, Mrs & Mrs Siddle, Siddle & Medeiros)
RBCC Twinhoe Crystal Vita (Mr C J Blair)
BPIB Lundgarth Jubilee (Mrs S E Booth)
BVIB Sh Ch Tenshilling Home Alone JW ShCM (Mrs C J O'Neill)

VETERAN DOG (1,0)

1st Sh Ch Tenshilling Home Alone JW ShCM (Mrs C J O'Neill) – This o/w masculine boy is still looking so good for his age. I was lucky enough to judge him several years ago and he is as sound now as he was as a youngster. His frame is built on curvaceous lines, he has correct feet, he is moderately angulated front and rear, his forechest has good fill and he uses his tail so well on the move. He was thoroughly enjoying his day and pulled out all the stops in the challenge to gain BVIB. A credit to his breeder.

MINOR PUPPY DOG (6,0)

1st Kanix Snapdragon at Fallowfield NAF TAF (Mrs C Lewis) – This o/w headed a mixed class of pups. He is a balanced boy when stacked but still rather untidy on the move, but I put that down to his age as I think he will come together as he strengthens. Handsome head, with detail starting to develop, well laid shoulder and stood on good feet. Hopefully he will tighten in the skin as he is slightly skirty and the handler needs to try to not overstretch him as he stands naturally well over plenty of ground.

2nd Sedgekirk Ever Been Had (Mr E E & Mrs G Whitham) – Another o/w, shorter coupled than the class winner and not quite the detail in his head yet. However, he is such a beautiful curvy Pointer, dark pigment round his eyes, fine leathers, a clean neck and a super underline. Very sound on the move and using his tail correctly, lashing as he went.

3rd Hawkfield Witch Doctor (Ms W Gordon)

PUPPY DOG (2,0)

1st Carofel Wings of Hope (Mrs A & Mrs L Matthews & Adams) – An upstanding o/w who was so well schooled and handled. Really liked his head and expression, another with good feet, moderate angulation, well sprung ribs for a youngster and well-muscled hindquarters. Perhaps a touch long in the neck for me, but a lot to like. BPD

2nd Flinthill Hot Mail (Miss L Keaney) – Overall a smaller o/w, more compact than the class winner, I would prefer more turn of stifle and more slope to the pastern, but he is curvy and certainly very sound on the move. I'm sure once the handler gains more confidence, she will have some fun with him.

JUNIOR DOG (4,2)

1st Tenshilling Jimmy Mack (Mrs J Webb) – O/w masculine boy, shown in hard muscular condition. The best of feet with strong pasterns, well laid shoulder and a flowing topline, and a super tail carried level. For me, his head could be better, he lacks that dish faced appearance that the standard asks for, but despite this he is a super dog.

2nd Joneva Just Imagine (Miss G J & Mr N A Mennen & Sweeney) – another o/w who has a really pleasing head and expression, clean neck, super bee sting tail, good bone throughout although not the substance of 1. I would prefer a better lay of shoulder and return of upper arm but nonetheless he's still a stylish dog.

YEARLING DOG (2,0)

1st Chesterhope One Way Ticket (ai) (Imp Nzl) (Mrs S & Mr M Oddie) – I was looking forward to judging this young b/w male and was pleased to see him enter the ring. Still a long way off maturity as you would expect. He isn't the biggest or heaviest, but he is balanced and pleasing to go over. Well laid shoulder and good turn to his stifle, clean neck, good spring of rib, short tail and well-muscled. Ideally, I would like him to tighten up in front. I'm sure his day will come.

2nd Piasharn Garrick (Mrs Cj & Mr Kh Bush) – B/w boy who is rather light in bone and substance. For me I would like more angulation front and rear, but he is curvy and has a handsome head, good feet and a super tail. Such a gentle handler who worked well with his dog.

NOVICE DOG (4,0)

1st Hawkfield Wickham (Miss C Pratt) – Solid liver boy who won the class for his overall breed type and curves. Another that was very light in bone and substance and his head could have had more depth to it, but he was shown in super condition and was very sympathetically handled.

2nd Braithwaite Pole Position in Fallowfield (Mrs C Lewis) – O/w who at only 13 months already has a lot of body to him. Hopefully he is just a quick maturer, as he is well developed in bone and through his shoulders. Strong masculine head, deep flews and a prominent forechest. Moved ok but was somewhat weak behind, but again this could be a development stage.

3rd Kanix Sourdough TAF (Miss . & Mrs A Hill)

GRADUATE DOG (7,1)

1st Harvestslade Light of Peace (Mrs D & Mr N Preece & Gilding) – A lot to like about this o/w boy, Masculine head, but not overdone at all, with good chiselling and dark pigment. His front assembly has a well laid shoulder and return of upper arm, deep brisket, strong pasterns and a correct turn to his stifle. Well-muscled hindquarters and a bee sting tail which he used well. Moved soundly in the class but in the challenge appeared to be slightly dropping on one shoulder, however the concrete surface was very unforgiving.

2nd Tenshilling Here I Go Again (Mrs J Bowen-Brooks) – A curvy b/w, slightly longer overall than the class winner, shoulder is well laid but could have a better return of upper arm, well sprung ribs, muscular loin, good width to his second thigh and really well handled.

3rd Collholme Balthasar (Mr D T & Mrs J A Collins)

POST GRADUATE DOG (3,1)

1st Sunhouse Banged to Rights (Mrs R M C & Miss R Martin) – B/w dog that is probably heavier than what I would like, but he won the class on his balanced outline and angulation. Flowing topline, pleasing underline, good turn of stifle and excellent feet. Somewhat unsettled on the move due to his exuberance.

2nd Lowsmoor Crazy for You JW (Mrs A Lowe) – O/w who was a really sound mover, covering the ground effortlessly. A heavier head and neck than I prefer, but a good shoulder, well sprung ribs, moderate angulation and good oval bone.

LIMIT DOG (13,1)

1st Stocksfell Chase The Ace (Mrs A J Wybergh) – Why have I never noticed this b/w dog before? He's not flashy or exaggerated in any way, he is just a really good, honest Pointer. You have to get your hands on him to appreciate him. He has a balanced head, well defined stop, soft, fine leathers and a clean neck. Excellent front construction which shines through on the move, as he has effortless reach keeping his elbows tucked in. Curves right the way through, good feet and pasterns, front and rear angulation is balanced, and his muscular hindquarters allow him to push well from behind so he drives round the ring. The handler does an excellent job giving him free rein to move. My standout male of the day and delighted to award him his first CC. Good luck for the future.

2nd Teisgol Keep On Going via Penwest JW (Miss Westaway) – Lm/w boy who still needs time to mature but so much to like. He pushed hard for the class but just preferred the balance and angulation of the winner. This boy has the best of heads, already so full of detail and chiselling, clean and muscular neck, good bone throughout, he is curvy and has a good underline, but his forte is his movement. He is so balanced and sound, light on his feet and it all appears effortless, exactly as it should be. A well deserved RCC and I'm sure a lot more fun to be had in the future.

3rd Sharnphilly Vice Versa with Peteshe Sgwc (Miss A S K & Mr J Henshaw & Goodchild)

OPEN DOG (3,0)

1st Sh Ch Sharnphilly Boondoggle JW (Miss Oddie) – So much has already been said about this top winning b/w male and I don't disagree with any of it. I loved his head and expression, fine leathers and clean neck. He is well angulated and has good bone and a well turned stifle. Personally, I would prefer slightly more slope to his pasterns, but that is really nit picking. His side profile movement is one of the best I saw today, he truly has incredible ground coverage.

2nd Wilchrimane Niffler (Mrs & Miss A Siddle) – This o/w boy was unlucky to meet the class winner who was in such fine fettle, as this is another excellent quality male. He doesn't have the overall angulation of 1 but he is so balanced. My notes say that I loved his head and melting expression. Flowing topline and underline, super feet and pasterns and shown in excellent condition. Foot perfect on the move and so light on his feet.

3rd Fydal Caprio at Salmonmist JW ShCM OSW ShCEX (Ms S R Philo)

VETERAN BITCH (7,1)

1st Freebreeze Easy Virtue (Mrs M L Nelis) – This b/w "young" girl headed the most beautiful class of veterans. She is just so full of the breed type I love. Balanced head with a soft expression, well constructed front, excellent feet and pasterns, well sprung ribs and muscular loin. Shown in good hard condition. Sound and light on the move and lashing her beautiful bee sting tail level with her topline to complete the picture. Sadly, in the challenge she just appeared a bit jaded and had to give way to the male for BV, who was on top form.

2nd Crookrise Diva by Luneville (Mr N J & Mrs K M Macmanus) – Another beautiful b/w lady who was in hard muscular condition, a real credit to her owner. Although I preferred the overall balance of 1, this girl has a super head and expression, good feet and bone and was a true picture of graceful curves.

3rd Lowsmoor Shiralee JW (Mrs A Lowe)

MINOR PUPPY BITCH (5,0)

1st Freebreeze Special Effects (Mrs M L Nelis) – This pretty young o/w girl headed a difficult class to judge as like the MPD class, it was very mixed. She won because of her breed type and, when she eventually settled, her excellent movement. By far the soundest in the class, she is moderately angulated, she has curves, a flowing topline, ideal feet and a super little tail that she held level and lashed. She won the award for the most frustrating dog of the day as in the challenge for BP, she really played her handler up and just wouldn't settle. Hopefully this will improve as she matures.

2nd Millpoint Golden Pippin (Ms A Brooksmith) – An extremely pretty o/w who pushed very hard for this class. I really liked her head for its balance and dark pigment. She is elegant and feminine, has good oval bone and is in super condition. At the moment she is a bit weak behind and needs to strengthen up, but this should improve with maturity. Such an eye-catching girl.

3rd Freebreeze Pixar at Prosperity (Miss T Cardiff)

PUPPY BITCH (8.2)

1st Lundgarth Jubilee (Mrs S E Booth) – Another extremely pretty o/w with the most beautiful head. She has soft fine leathers, a clean neck, good bone, feet were fine, well sprung ribs, muscular loin and a good turn of stifle. I couldn't deny her the class, as when she settled, she moved out with style. Super tail and carriage and the best of side profile movements. All credit to her handler because she was not the most confident of girls, but she got the absolute best out of her and pulled out all the stops to take BPIB. Delighted to see her win PG2 in a super group. Many congratulations to all involved.

2nd Millpoint Golden Pippin (Ms A Brooksmith)

3rd Millpoint Kiss Me Kate at Casdellda (Ms J Dunn)

JUNIOR BITCH (9.4)

1st Joneva Just A Kiss (Miss S & Mrs G Rossiter & Fewster) – I first saw this young o/w back in Belfast last year and she really caught my eye. I've watched her mature and today she didn't disappoint. This class was one of the hardest I judged today and all 4 could change places at any time, but today this girl shone. She presents a beautiful picture of elegance and balance. Of course, she isn't the finished article, but she's heading in the right direction. She is feminine, well angulated, but not exaggerated, she is well muscled, has graceful curves and is very sound on the move. A credit to her owner and breeder and one to watch for the future.

2nd Sharnphilly Sugarplum JW (Miss Oddie) – A beautiful l/w girl who was another with so much elegance. Overall, she is longer in loin than the class winner, but she has a well laid shoulder, excellent return of upper arm, super feet and pasterns and bone throughout. For me, her tail carriage was a distraction when she was on the move, hopefully she will drop this as she matures. Another in fabulous condition.

3rd Tenshilling to Sir with Love JW (Mrs C J O'Neill)

YEARLING BITCH (5,2)

1st Lundgarth Everest JW (Mrs S E Booth) – Shorter coupled o/w who won the class because of her beautiful head and kind expression. Slightly arched, muscular neck, good spring of rib, curvy underline, well toned hindquarters and good tail carriage. Her movement was somewhat untidy, but it did improve as she settled down.

2nd Piasharn Demelza (Mrs C & Mr K Bush) – There are a lot of things to like about this little l/w girl. For me, I would prefer a better head, I found her rather plain and lacking depth to her muzzle. However, she is curvy, has balanced angulation front and rear, her clean neck flows well into her shoulders and she was beautifully handled. A bit untidy on the move but she did use her tail.

3rd Teisgol Snow Queen JW (Mr P, Mrs D & Mrs L Stilgoe & Fox)

NOVICE BITCH (5,4)

1st Sharnphilly Gingerbread (Mrs N Klaiber) – o/w who overall was larger than I prefer which detracts from her femininity. However, she has a pleasing head, the dished appearance is visible with good chiselling, muscular neck, well laid shoulder, good fill in front and sloping pasterns. Moderately angulated and my notes say I loved her body conditioning. Moved out well with good ground coverage.

GRADUATE BITCH (10,1)

1st Wilchrimane Frankly Darlin (Miss, Mrs & Mrs Siddle, Siddle & Medeiros) – It has to be said, I never expected to find my star of the day from a graduate class, but what a find. From the moment I saw her stood in the ring, she gave me goosebumps. She was exactly what I was hoping to find. She is feminine but still powerful. Her head is balanced, the dish-faced appearance spot on, dark pigment, thin leathers, slightly arched neck, well laid shoulders and return of upper arm, oval bone and good feet, short coupled and strong muscular hindquarters. But in the end, that's not what won her the class, her first CC or the BOB. It was her movement with her beautiful head carriage and lashing tail. The Pointer is an air scenting breed, they should show that as they move and she did that and more. If ever a Pointer said "look at me", it was this girl today. Watching her later in the Group ring took my breath away and I was very proud to see her take GP3. Congratulations to all connections and good luck chasing that crown.

2nd Raigmore Candlelight (Mr J & Mrs P Tibbs) – How unlucky was this b/w girl to meet the class winner on such top form. Another with the most beautiful of heads and kind expression, shown in excellent hard, muscular condition, the best of feet and sloping pasterns, one of the best coats of the day which was hard and fine and a credit to her breeder/owner.

3rd Collholme Angelique (Mr D T & Mrs J A Collins)

POST GRADUATE BITCH (9,1)

1st Stocksfell Shockwave (Mrs B Wilkinson) – B/w girl who was so elegant and feminine and very much the type I was looking for. Her outline is flowing and curvaceous, she is clean cut with no exaggerations, pleasing head and fine leathers, well laid shoulder and good sloping pasterns. On the move, she really covered the ground effortlessly and lashed her tail as she went.

2nd Sunhouse Partners in Crime (Mrs R M C & Miss R Martin) – My notes say you have get your hands on this b/w girl to fully appreciate her. She really does flow. Long, clean neck leading to well placed shoulders and a front that was filled in with a deep brisket. Nothing overdone, she moved out well, using her tail correctly. She was shown in super hard condition.

3rd Sharnphilly Tiktok to Riowood (Miss Oddie)

LIMIT BITCH (11,0)

1st Twinhoe Crystal Vita (Mr C J Blair) – A really stylish b/w girl who I found to be so eye-catching. Her head is exquisite, a dish faced appearance, a well defined stop and a well developed lip. Long and clean in the neck, good front construction, excellent feet and pasterns, and good infill to her forechest. She has no exaggerations, a pleasing turn of stifle, and a short bee sting tail which she carried correctly. On the move, it took time for the handler to get the pace right, but when he did, she reached out well in front and really drove from behind. She just kept demanding my attention in the challenge, so I couldn't deny her the RCC. Good luck for the future.

2nd Morgan Van Freebreeze (Imp Nld) (Mrs R Mason) – This beautiful o/w was so unlucky to meet the class winner as she's always been a girl I have admired from the ringside. I just found the winner to be slightly more feminine. However, she has a super head, dark eye and pigment, muscular neck, well laid shoulder and return of upper arm, good spring of ribs and has curves right through her body. Sound on the move and covered the ground with ease and had one of the best tails of the day.

3rd Fowington Lar Ti Dar at Deadaway (Mrs J M Blowers)

OPEN BITCH (3,0)

1st Sh Ch Chesterhope C'mon over to Carmandine (Imp Nzl) JW (Mrs M & Mrs C Gerrard & Bell) – What an absolute honour to judge a class of three top drawer champion bitches and all three thoroughly deserve their crowns. The class was headed by this super example of the breed. Leading up to the day, I thought this girl would be my outright winner. So much has been said about her and it's all true. She has a feminine head, which is balanced and detailed, soft leathers, clean neck and the best of shoulders. She is a series of graceful curves, has a good turn of stifle and was shown in perfect condition. I genuinely couldn't fault her footfall on the move, but she was just losing her topline slightly as she went, so when it came to the challenge, this is what let her down. A truly stunning example of the breed and on another day, things could be so different.

2nd Sh Ch Wilchrime Frankel (ai) (Mrs & Miss A Siddle) – Another superb example of the breed from this super kennel. The dam of my BOB and she has so many similar qualities. Her head is balanced and has good chiselling, a melting expression, excellent front construction, good oval bone, curvy and muscular and a perfect tail. I was really splitting hairs between her and the class winner, but overall, I just preferred the side profile of 1 as well as her length of loin.

3rd Sh Ch Tenshilling The Wanderer (Mrs J Webb)

Colette Perkins - judge