CITY OF BIRMINGHAM CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SHOW SUNDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER 2023

I had been looking forward to my first appointment in the UK since first being approached in 2015. Following a few issues, I finally had the pleasure of judging my breed at this show and was delighted with the good entry numbers. I am grateful to the City of Birmingham CA for this invitation to judge and to the exhibitors who entered their Pointers. Having watched the breed closely over decades and having sent winning Pointers to the UK in the past I was delighted with the overall breed quality and extremely pleased to see the depth of quality in so many of my winning youngsters.

I was also impressed by the high standard of Pointers winning my major awards and delighted to see my BOB Sh Ch Wilchrimane Frankel (ai) going on to be awarded Best Gundog by Frank Kane in an extremely strong Gundog Group. I was also delighted to see my Best Junior of breed, Kanix Smoochie at Stargang winning Group 2 Junior of Group. In my view the breed is in a very solid state and the quality of the youngsters will keep the candle burning for the foreseeable future.

BOB & BCC: SIDDLE & SIDDLE, Sh Ch Wilchrimane Frankel (ai) RBCC: THIRLWELL & MALIK, Sh Ch Sharnphilly Santa Rosa

DCC: LAYTON, Sh Ch Joneva Born To Thrill RDCC: ODDIE, Sh Ch Sharnphilly Boondoggle JW

BPIB: BLACKBURN-BENNETT, Kanix Smoochie at Stargang

BVIB: LOWE, Lowsmoor Shiralee JW

BJIB: BLACKBURN-BENNETT, Kanix Smoochie at Stargang

BSBIB: COLLINS & COLLINS, Collholme Angelique

SPECIAL BEGINNERS DOG (2 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st TRUEMAN, Bradleypoint Floki. Pleasing typical breed head, lacking front angulation with moderate turn of stifle. Lacking depth of chest. Drops off over the croup. Inclined to lift his front when moving. 2nd COLLINS & COLLINS, Collholme Balthasar. Head proportions are correct although lacking correct dish. Balanced body. I would prefer better rear angulation and strength of second thigh. Exaggerated lift in front when moving.

VETERAN DOG (2 Entries, Abs: 1)

1st O'NEILL, Sh Ch Tenshilling Home Alone JW ShCM. Excellent overall balance and movement for an 8 ½ year old dog. A pleasing head and skull shape, correct front assembly, great strength of bone and correct pasterns and feet. Strong and powerful hindquarters with good strength of second thigh. Still covers the ground with ease and wonderful to see him using his tail correctly.

MINOR PUPPY DOG (7 Entries, Abs: 1)

1st WATKINS, Lakewinds Benchmark (Imp AUS) NAF TAF

Impressive young dog. Overall balance is excellent with correct depth of chest and flowing lines. Sound moving young man who has a free and easy gait and sound ground coverage. Lovely soft expression and outgoing temperament. At just 7 months of age, he exudes promise and potential.

2nd MILLETT, Riowood Orange Twist. A pleasing head although more length of muzzle would add balance. Nice neck into shoulder with good front assembly, pasterns, and feet. Balanced body with correct curves. Short tail with good rear angles and strength. Shows good potential.

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PUPPY DOG (10 Entries, Abs: 2)

1st HILL, HILL & HILL, Kanix Sourdough with Calaquendi. Excellent overall balance and breed type. Pleasing and balanced head with correct depth of flew. Lovely flowing angles with appropriate and correct series of curves. Excellent strength of hindquarters leading to him being a balanced and free moving dog with excellent shaped and correct lashing tail. A pleasure to watch moving in the ring.

2nd LEWIS, Kanix Snapdragon at Fallowfield. Litter brother to the class winner. Excellent overall balance and shape with a lovely head, correct front assembly and a balanced flow from head to tail. Sound rear movement however inclined to lift a little in front and move a little wide when coming to you. Unlucky to come up against 1st place however on the day #1's movement was smoother and covered more ground.

JUNIOR DOG (2 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st MATTHEWS & ADAMS, Carofel Wings Of Hope JW. Lovely flowing lines and series of graceful curves. Pleasing and correct head types with good head planes. Long and muscular neck flowing into well-constructed shoulders. Good depth of chest with brisket to the elbows. Level topline and excellent tail set. Good strength of hindquarters. Free and easy movement with good ground coverage. Uses his tail well on the move.

2nd HILL, HILL & HILL, Kanix Sourdough with Calaquendi. Winner of the previous puppy class beaten only by the maturity of number 1. Both dogs being excellent examples of young male Pointers.

YEARLING DOG (3 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st WEBB, Tenshilling Jimmy Mack JW. Balanced overall proportions. Would prefer more dish in head although head length is balanced. Well laid-back shoulders, good spring of ribs and depth of chest. Would prefer more rear angulation however when moving he covered the ground well and uses his tail well. 2nd MENNEN & SWEENEY, Joneva Just Imagine JW. Excellent head with great reach and arching of the neck. Chest is not let down to the elbows although he flows nicely from neck to tail. Good rear angulation and second thigh with good tail shape and tail set. When moving he lifts his front which spoils the presentation and a higher placing.

GRADUATE DOG (2 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st ABBOTT, Tenshilling Dock Of The Bay. Very plain head lacking stop, chiselling, occiput, and dish. Ears are rounded. Lacking upperarm although bone is oval and pasterns are correct. Brisket does not meet his elbows. Steep topline and he drops off over his croup. On the move he does not reach or drive appropriately and is short stepping although not lifting his front.

2nd TRUEMAN, Bradleypoint Floki. Pleasing typical breed head, lacking front angulation with moderate turn of stifle. Lacking depth of chest. Drops off over the croup. Inclined to lift his front when moving.

POST GRADUATE DOG (5 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st WALKLING, SIDDLE & SIDDLE, Wilchrimane Kinsphere with Kiswahili. Balanced overall appearance. Head is plain lacking dish and expression. Somewhat flat in skull without pronounced occiput. Good reach of neck into well laid shoulders. Good hindquarters. When moving has good reach and drive although he is a little wide in front when approaching. Does not use his tail which he holds with an upward bend towards the rear.

2nd MENNEN & SWEENEY, Lundgarth Wild Yarrow. Good overall balance. Pleasing head and flowing lines. Brisket is not let down to his elbows. Good strength of second thigh however he drops off over the croup. Very nervous in the ring which affects his movement and attitude and therefore his ability to be placed at a higher level.

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LIMIT DOG (9 Entries, Abs: 1)

1st PREECE & GILDING, Harvestslade Light Of Peace. Good overall balance. Pleasing head and neck into shoulders. Good bone. Ears somewhat rounded and lacking slight point. Good depth of chest and strength of front. Well-built hindquarters and strength of second thigh. Drops off a little over the croup. Moves well and covers the ground with ease. Uses his tail well when moving.

2nd WILCOX, Pipeaway Dreams Afyre in Merynjen JW. Well balanced male. Flows well from neck to tail. Would prefer more stop. Good length of foreface. A little out at elbow and depth of chest not to elbows. Good bone and pasterns. Nice overall breed type.

OPEN DOG (9 Entries, Abs: 1)

1st LAYTON, Sh Ch Joneva Born To Thrill. Very typical and pleasing head type with a lovely expression. Very balanced overall with lovely flowing lines. Good strength of bone and well-built in both his front and rear. When moving he covers the ground effortlessly and has good reach in front and a powerful driving rear action. Uses his tail well although at times inclined to carry this higher than would be ideal. Loved his overall balance, movement and carriage when moving and his pleasing expression. **DCC**2nd ODDIE, Sh Ch Sharnphilly Boondoggle JW. Like #1 I loved his overall type and balance and flowing lines. He is well built all over and flows well from head to tail. A pleasing head with correct shape and balance. Good bone and pasterns. Excellent tail set and shape. When moving today he did not flow as well as my first place although he is of very good breed type and style. Given the hot conditions perhaps on another day these results may be changed. **RDCC**

GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME DOG (1 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st OLIVER & STILGOE, Teisgol Love Is In The Air. Overall balance is adequate. Somewhat plain in head and lacking depth of muzzle. Adequate shoulders although somewhat upright in shoulder. Upright in pasterns and rounded feet. Chest does not meet the elbows. Would prefer more turn of stifle.

SPECIAL BEGINNERS BITCH (4 Entries, Abs: 1)

1st COLLINS & COLLINS, Collholme Angelique. Balanced head with a pleasing dark eye. Good length of neck and overall balance. Lacking depth of chest. Moves well and has a well-developed hindquarter. Good bone and pasterns

2nd KLAIBER, Sharnphilly Gingerbread. Balanced head although ears somewhat rounded and low set. Lacks depth of chest. Bone and pasterns good. Lacking sufficient tuck up and a little long in body. Very steep in croup and when moving has a hooked tail carriage which is not typical.

VETERAN BITCH (2 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st LOWE, Lowsmoor Shiralee JW. Nicely balanced verteran bitch. Pleasing head which is nicely balanced. Nice flow from neck into shoulders. Topline held level when moving. Good bone and substance. Uses her tail well when moving. Carries herself well for her 8 1/2 years. Clearly enjoyed her day out at this show.

BVIB

2nd BROOKSMITH, Nightgold Blackavar VW. Pleasant head shape and depth of muzzle. Balanced front although chest not let down to her elbows. A little long in body although when moving she holds her topline well. Moves very well for a 12 years old bitch.

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MINOR PUPPY BITCH (4 Entries, Abs: 1)

1st MASON, Heartbury Tormenta over Nosam. Nice flowing lines from neck to tail. Good length of muzzle and pleasing skull shape. Balanced overall body shape with well laid shouldes and good turn of stifle and second thigh. Chest not to elbows but given her age should develop. Good tail set however she does not use her tail correctly.

2nd LAYTON, Heartbury Estrella. Litter sister to #1. Does not flow as well as #1 although she has a sound topline and powerful hindquarter. She does not have the strength of bone of her sister and is inclined to move close in front when coming. Carries her tail high when moving.

PUPPY BITCH (7 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st MACARA & BLACKBURN-BENNETT, Kanix Sooty at Stargang. Impressive puppy bitch with a beautiful flow from head to tail. She exudes Pointer type. Lovely typical head with a soft and gentle expression. Balanced head proportions and correct skull shape. Well-developed front, good bone and pasterns, flowing level topline with well-developed hindquarters and correct turn of stifle. Excellent tail set and shape. Effortless movement with a sound easy gait.

2nd NELIS, Freebreeze Special Effects. Another quality bitch from a strong class. Excellent overall flow and body shape. A pleasing head that is nicely balanced. Lovely flow from neck into shoulders that is complimented by strong hindquarters with correct turn of stifle. Needs her chest to develop and to reach her elbows. Excellent tail shape and length. Does not move as easily or flow as well when moving as my #1.

JUNIOR BITCH (6 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st BLACKBURN-BENNETT, Kanix Smoochie at Stargang. Another impressive young bitch. I loved her curves and flow from head to tail. A beautiful series of graceful curves. A feminine and expressive headpiece which was beautifully balanced. Her neck into shoulder balance is excellent and she has strong but feminine outline. She has lovely strength of hindquarters with well-developed 2nd thigh and correct turn of stifle. Excellent tail set. I enjoyed the overall balance and quality of this bitch and her ring presence and effortless movement. **BPOB and Group 2 Junior of Group**

2nd BOOTH, Lundgarth Jubilee. Nice flow from head to tail. Nicely balanced head with correct skull shape and balance. Very elegant with a long and arched neck. A little upright in shoulder and lacking in depth of chest which does not meet her elbows. Would prefer more slope in pasterns. Does not carry her topline as well as #1 when moving and is a little stilted when moving. Good strength of hindquarters and tail set.

YEARLING BITCH (4 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st ODDIE, Sharnphilly Sugarplum. Lemon and White bitch with nice overall balance. Head balanced with good expression. Ear set low. Good length of neck and topline. Chest does not reach her elbows and pasterns are lacking correct slope with rounded feet. Balanced and sound rear. Somewhat restricted in movement and does not use her tail as required when moving.

2nd BOND, Joneva Azelia Banks JW. Muzzle lacks length which affects the overall balance of the head. Would prefer more length of neck and length of leg although she has solid bone and good pasterns. Tail is low set. Does not reach or drive well when moving.

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GRADUATE BITCH (8 Entries, Abs: 1)

1st O'NEILL, Tenshilling To Sir With Love. Somewhat plain in head and lacking length of muzzle. Low-set and rounded ears. The body balance overall is good although I would prefer more flowing lines and better curves. Hindquarters are good and movement was sound and free flowing.

2nd BLACKBURN-BENNETT & BLACKBURN-BENNETT, Kanix Skyfall. Liver & white bitch that was a little heavier overall than #1. Balanced head although I would prefer more depth of flew. Good length of neck and depth of chest. Somewhat upright in pasterns. Would prefer more tuck up to provide a better series of curves. Hindquarters are adequate but lacking in turn of stifle. Did not move as well as #1 however movement was sound.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (9 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st HARRISON, Millpoint Hearts On Fire. Beautifully balanced and lovely flow from head to tail. Well-proportioned and typical head that is well balanced with soft expressive eye. Very good depth of body with strong bone and correct pasterns. Correct arching over the loin flowing into strong hindquarters with good turn of stifle and strength of 2nd thigh. Impressive overall shape and style although I would prefer a little less overall length and size. Covers the ground well when moving with an effortless and sound gait. 2nd JAMIESON & JAMIESON, Carmelfair Bellissima with Glenfinnan. Sound overall without as much angles front and rear as # 1. Plainer head without as much workings and chiselling. Flows well from neck to tail and has good depth of chest. Would prefer stronger and more developed hindquarters. Croup is a little steep. Sound moving when going around.

LIMIT BITCH (6 Entries, Abs: 2)

1st PEARSON, Millpoint Jolly Good Show at Ladyhawke. Sound overall body shape and style. Somewhat plain in head although head is well proportioned. Good depth of chest and strength of bone and carries a strong topline. Hindquarters well developed with a good tail set. Strongly built bitch who would benefit from better tuck up and more curves. Sound ground covering movement.

2nd LOWE, Lowsmoor Half A Sixpence JW. Exaggerated dish with excessive upturn. Flatter skull without pronounced occiput. Good layback of shoulders although chest does not reach the elbows and would benefit from a more developed body. Good bone and level topline. Would prefer greater strength of hindquarters. Drops off over the croup. Balanced when moving.

OPEN BITCH (8 Entries, Abs: 0)

An excellent class which provided me with several quality bitches to evaluate.

1st SIDDLE & SIDDLE, Sh Ch Wilchrimane Frankel (ai). This bitch was a pleasure to judge and provided me with all the type and class that you hope you will find, when judging. From the moment she entered the ring I was taken by her flowing movement, her carriage, and her ring presence. Whether standing or moving she fits my idea of perfection. She has a beautiful headpiece which is balanced and elegant with soft expressive eyes. She flows from head to tail and exemplifies the requirements of a series of graceful curves. Her body proportions are symmetrical, and she has a strong yet feminine appearance. She is aristocratic and when moving demonstrates both power and style. She uses her tail well and in the correct manner. I am sure she will continue to impress many others who get the privilege of judging her in the future. **BCC, BOB, and Gundog Group 1**

2nd THIRLWELL & MALIK, Sh Ch Sharnphilly Santa Rosa. In my personal notes I described her as fabulous. She is beautifully balanced, has a delightful headpiece, is powerful yet elegant and flows from head to tail. She has excellent bone, has great muscle tone and a lovely tail that flows perfectly from her tail set. On the move she is powerful yet effortless. Against any other company she would have taken the CC however against my winner she was a thoroughly deserving **Res CC**.

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GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME BITCH (2 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st CARDIFF, Freebreeze Pixar at Prosperity. Nice overall balance. Would prefer greater reach of neck and arching. Balanced head, good strength of bone although somewhat steep in pasterns. Adequate hindquarters that lack turn of stifle. Tail set a little low. Balanced when moving.

2nd KLAIBER, Hawkfield Scandalous. A little plain in head and I would prefer greater depth of flew. Ears are a little low set. Balanced body which could be a little shorter in length. Good hindquarters although tail is long and carried high when moving.

PAUL ROBINSON, BEM (New Zealand) - judge

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