

SETTER AND POINTER CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SHOW

Saturday 25th November 2023

Having looked forward to judging at this show for over 5 years due to covid restrictions I was extremely pleased to attract the top entry for the overall show. My thanks go to the committee for the invitation and to my two stewards.

There was depth of quality in some classes making decisions harder and on other days could mean places change. Since I last judged bitches, I am pleased to find that the quality is still there in good numbers. My observations on the breed are that we have an issue with front construction, in particular elbows and pasterns. There were quite a few exhibits that standing and on the move in profile looked OK. When going over the dog I found elbows that were not in close proximity to the body and either upright pasterns coming straight from the toes or down on pasterns with flat feet and long nails. On the move the pasterns were almost turning full circle with no control and flipping about. This is not correct and causes an inefficient movement, causing the dog to tire easily and cover no ground. Length of backs concerned me. I found some to be too short causing the dog to lean forward on the stance, others seem to go on a long way, creating weakness. In general, rear quarters were improved, although there are still youngsters being bred with long stifle and either over exaggerated stifles or none at all.

I had a couple of overweight exhibits, but alarmingly there were a few very underweight ones. Believe me I don't like to see overweight dogs and although they were well muscled, I was quite taken aback at the lack of weight and condition.

I gave everyone time to stand and move their dogs to the best of their ability in the lovely large ring. Mouths are still not 100% correct. Tails were a lot better than I have seen at some shows over the years.

My decisions seemed to be accepted in a sporting manner and it was heartening to hear applause and class exhibitors saying well done to each other, something we don't hear very often over the years.

VETERAN DOG

1st Wall's Meadowpoint Spirit Of Fire. B/w. 9 yrs. Good outline and he keeps this on the move striding out with even steps, lashing his well placed tail. In good order all through, he enjoyed himself. Correct bone, feet and pasterns. Depth to brisket well ribbed with correct turn of stifle.

MINOR PUPPY DOG

1st Hazeltine & Razzell's Corotine Prince Charming. 6mth lemon. Very confident smart pup. Lovely front construction brisket to elbows. Correct bone type. Stands on good feet correct toes. Ribs well back strength in loin. Correct angulation with good stifles and hocks. Tail set on well. Has a lovely head, correct mouth. Eyes well set. Moved with confidence and a good length of stride.

2nd Thorpe & Bircham Braithwaite Quartz at Braegorse. 7 mth orange/white. Beautiful head on this young lad correct mouth good shape flews. Has a wonderful eye set and colour. Great stop and rise to skull. Neck flows into a good shoulder. On the stand he wouldn't always play the game at times however his handler moved him at a steady pace to show his true good movement. He is a baby and even when adult there will be days he will still play up!

3rd Cooper & Pearson's Keepersfield Hope And Glory

PUPPY DOG

1st Watkins' Lakewinds Benchmark (Imp AUS). 9 mth, orange/white. My first impression of him I found him to be of a good type with the essential Pointer conformation. Presents a lovely outline with correct bone feet and toes. Pasterns correct. On approaching him he has a beautiful eye and ear placement. Ample work in skull correct mouth. Good depth to flews. Clean through neck area leading into well placed shoulders. Good strength through loin, strong quarters. Moves well for a pup with drive and exuberance giving his handler a challenge.

2nd Norbury's Heartbury Matador. Orange / white. 10mth. Very smart baby. Head has deep stop, correct ears with fine leathers. Good front leading into a clean neck well ribbed. Moved out with confidence.

3rd Philo's Sunhouse Black Is Back at Salmonmist

JUNIOR DOG

1st Whitham's Sedgekirk Ever Beem Had. Orange / white. Upstanding young male, moved out on a free lead. Correct skull properties with correct mouth and ears. Stands on good feet with strong pasterns. Tail set on correctly. Shown in fit condition.

2nd Keaney's Flinthill Hot Mail. O/w. Similar remarks apply as winner regarding his head. Has good depth to brisket. Preferred the rear angulation of winner.

3rd License's Freebreeze Virtual Reality of Arrowmere.

YEARLING DOG

1st Trueman's Bradleypoint Floki. B/W. Smart outline, has ample depth to brisket. Strong neck into well placed shoulders. Has good density to bone. Stands well on good shaped feet. Masculine head. Moved with a good length of low stride.

2nd Roberts' Kananaskis Hudson. B/W. Found him to be overweight which spoiled his outline and movement being rather sluggish. Feet not in great order. Preferred the balance of winner.

NOVICE DOG

1st Trueman's Bradleypoint Floki.

2nd Kearney's Flinthill Hot Mail.

3rd Cooper & Pearson's Keepersfield Hope And Glory.

GRADUATE DOG

1st Trueman's Bradleypoint Floki

2nd Sillince's Davigdor Flanders Field. O/w. Lighter framed has an excellent head, well placed ears thin leathers. Moves well in profile but coming towards me he wasn't in control of his front. Only a youngster who needs time.

POST GRADUATE DOG

1st Welch's Hookwood Starman JW. Have liked this youngster since he first was shown. Not a big boy in height, but certainly has substance and ring presence. Correct bone stands well. Head has to be handled to appreciate the quality and work in it. Good stop. Correct mouth good flews. Good topline and quarters. Moved well with good reach.

2nd Allen's Dondaig Wooden Heart. B/W. Heavier set boy has good profile. Moves well on rear however needs to control his front movement.

3rd Sillince's Davigdor Flanders Field.

LIMIT DOG

Super class of lovely males. There were a couple with incorrect mouths and small teeth.

1st Marsh's Lithespirit Hope And Glory for Ratchda. Handsome Liver/white showing fitness and muscle tone. Only a youngster and has lots more to come in the future. Super coat. Carries himself well. Has a classic head with plenty of work in it. Correct mouth. Good depth to chest well ribbed back. Moved out on a free lead showing his well placed movement. He can at times hold himself a little rigid which can detract from his good balance. Very pleased to award him the RCC.

2nd Guy & Tuthill's Cumbrian Night King at Carofel (Imp USA). B/w. Smaller in height but has a pleasing outline. Good bone and pasterns, feet. Love his head showing well turned lips correct mouth. Great fore and aft moved out well with drive.

3rd Wilcox's Pipeaway Dreams Afyre in Merynjen JW. Unlucky to meet these two boys. I have admired him for a long time. Moves well in the large ring.

OPEN DOG

1st Newberry's Manchela Make My Day for Giulia. B/W 5 yrs. Well, a star of the day indeed. A stunning adult Pointer that is coming into his own this year. Pointers should mature at a steady pace and be allowed to grow up slowly. He is a boy from the classic era. He presents a beautiful outline and when going over him he has everything in the right place. Beautiful head with well set eyes and good leathers. Great turn of lip correct mouth. Occiput shows through. Strong neck into well placed shoulders. Correct depth to chest area. Well ribbed back strong through loin. Has great muscle tone in his well turned rear and stifles. No over exaggeration in these stifles. Tail set correctly which he used on the move. His handler moved him at the correct pace in the large ring. Extremely proud to award him his 2nd CC and BOB over an extremely sound bitch.

2nd Westaway's Teisgol Keep On Going via Penwest JW. Lemon boy 2yrs youngster. Unlucky to meet winner who is more mature. Has good breed type. Tail set on correctly. Moved well with an even stride.

3rd Oliver & Stilgoe's Teisgol Love Is In The Air. A young boy who shows well and has good breed type.

FIELD TRIAL DOG OR BITCH

1st Westron's FT CH Aurichalcum Glentaisie. B/W. What a lively lovely girl. Really enjoying herself. Moves well with correct tail set used well on the move. In hard condition. Good bone. Good coat.

SPECIAL WORKING GUNDOG DOG OR BITCH

1st Anderson-Rowell's Raigmore Limelight at Daledancer. O/w. Pretty girl with a lovely head and expression. Another fit for purpose and moved round the ring effortlessly. Well muscled in great condition.

VETERAN BITCH

1st Hewitt's Sh Ch Droveborough's Miss Marple. Liver/white, 8 yrs. What a classy mover for her handler. Went round the ring with enthusiasm and good footfall wagging her tail. Shown in good order. Her head is beautiful correct mouth. Ample work in skull. Kept her topline on the move. Best Veteran.

2nd Lowe's Lowesmoor Shiralee JW. O/W. Another beautiful girl. Balanced all through. Stand on correct feet and pasterns. Moved out well for her handler.

3rd Harrison's Millpoint Simply Scrumptus JW.

MINOR PUPPY BITCH

1st Hazeltine and Razzell's Corotine Queen Bea. Liver/white. Very pretty baby. Litter sister to Minor Puppy Dog. Beautiful head, good eye colour and set. Correct mouth. Clean neck flows into well placed shoulders that shows off her movement. Well ribbed. Has super quarters and moves so true showing balance.

2nd Bush's Piasharn Breaking The Law. Orange / white. Another that needs head handling to appreciate the work in it. Correct mouth and fine leathers. Good topline and loins. Moved well using the large ring. At this stage of growth, I preferred the rear of the winner.

3rd Anthony's Jilony Zelda.

PUPPY BITCH

1st Mason's Heartbury Tormenta over Nosam. O/W. Bigger girl through. Impressive outline although on the move she carries her tail a little too high. Pretty head correct mouth with deep flews. Correct front and rear construction which showed on the move.

2nd Hazeltine & Razzell's Corotine Queen Beau

3rd Bush's Piasharn Breaking The Law

JUNIOR BITCH

1st Hinton, Luke & Leman's Fleurfield Black Caviar. B/W. Such a pretty head with great work in it. Correct mouth. Eyes have a good expression. Well defined stop. Her outline shows balance and depth. Elegant but has strength in bone. Correct tail set used on the move. A low correct stride on this lovely girl.

2nd Brooksmith's Millpoint Golden Pippin. O/W. What a sweetheart she is. Hard luck to come up against winner. Another with a beautiful head showing good work in it. Correct t mouth. Has a sound front construction with correct feet and pasterns. Body has strength and depth. Well turned stifles and used her muscle tone well on the move.

3rd Guy's Carofel If I Had Wings.

YEARLING BITCH

1st Radcliffe's Sniperay Mattiboo Killer Queen. Lemon/W. Raw youngster who has potential. Well balanced fore and aft. Stands on correct feet, pasterns. Correct eye colour. Deep stop balanced skull. Correct mouth. Well muscled throughout. Moved really well for her handler who matched her pace and stride well.

2nd Matthews' Sonham C'est La Vie. B/W. Plenty of work in skull good stop and placement if ears. Correct mouth. Although in great condition body and coat wise her feet were rather flat, and nails needed trimming.

3rd Lake's Lithespirit Daisy Hamilton.

NOVICE BITCH

1st Moule's Codnorhawk Daisy Dingdong. Liver/W. Very smart confident youngster. Plenty of breed type here. Correct bone and feet with good toes. Pasterns true. She has a classic head that shows a kind expression with well set eyes and fine ears. Correct mouth. Stands well covering her ground. Well laid shoulders with strength to neck and back. Beautiful thighs with ample second thigh. Moved out and back with a low correct stride showing reach and drive.

2nd Earl, Wheldon & Jones' Hawkfield Frivolous for Caithpoint. Orange/W. Lovely outline with good stifles and hocks. Head needs more depth to lips to balance it out. Moved well.

3rd Mason's Heartbury Tormenta over Nosam

GRADUATE BITCH

1st Guy's Carofel If I Had Wings. Really like this girl. Has a balanced outline with great forehand. Feminine all through but showing a strength to her body. Correct mouth. Rear has true angulation with no exaggeration. Well muscled. Moved really well around the large ring.

2nd Welch, Drake & Hazeltine's Clamerkin Jubilee Surprise at Hookwood. B/W. Ample work in her pretty head good rise to skull. Has strength in topline held well on the move. Strong quarters Correct tail set. Moved with drive and reach.

3rd Dunn's Millpoint Heart And Soul at Casdellda.

POST GRADUATE BITCH

1st Norbury, Norbury & Adams' Heartbury Belacqua. Liver/W. Really liked her. Has a smooth outline no over exaggeration. Holds tonnes on the move. Ample work in head with good stop fine leathers. Good eye colour. Correct mouth. Shoulders well placed has good bone. Stands on correct feet with good pasterns. Moved well with purpose using her correctly set tail.

2nd Brooksmith's Nightgold Pipkin. Liver/W. Great type and shape. Beautiful head very feminine. Good shape flews. Clean neck deep brisket to elbows. She could make more effort on the move as she is a really balanced girl.

3rd Rayner, Spinks & Pringle's Spinray Songbird.

LIMIT BITCH

1st Norbury, Norbury & Adams' Heartbury Northern Lights JW. Orange/W. I have watched this youngster with interest over her short career. Super girl who headed this strong class of quality. 3 yrs. Just starting to mature nicely. Presents a beautiful outline with correct bone. Correct pasterns and feet. Well muscled throughout. Pretty head with correct eye set. Ears fine. Flews well turned. Correct mouth. Uses her front extension and rear drive to make the most of her true movement. Pleased to award her RCC.

2nd Lake's Wild Thyme. Liver/W. Another classic girl with a great head showing work. Good eye colour correct mouth. Strong neck into well set shoulders. Covers her ground when standing and moving. Lovely rear true stifles. Could lose some weight to her advantage.

3rd Lowe's Lowsmoor Half A Sixpence JW.

OPEN BITCH

1st Radcliffe's Sh Ch Sniperay Edge Of Glory. Watched this girl with interest over her young career. Still a youngster and has a lot more to offer in the future. Just starting to mature at the correct stage. At first look at her she shows a lovely balanced outline with true breed attributes. Going over her was a joy to find everything in the correct places. Correct mouth. Good dark eye well placed ears fine leathers. Well turned flews. Deep stop, head showing occiput. Strength through neck, back and rear. Well placed shoulders. Correct turn of stifle with short hocks. Used her well set tail when moving. Another one that needs a large ring like this to get into her stride and show her reach and drive. Pleased to award her CC.

2nd Cobden's Pendan Zelie. Liver/W. VHC in a strong limit class. Has breed type stamped through her. Classic head. No exaggeration on her. Lovely balance all through.

3rd Purdy's Pendan Georgiana.

PAULINE SMITH - judge