

Ladies Kennel Association Championship Show December 2009

Pointers

It has been a few years since I last judged the breed. I, along with John, was looking forward to this appointment. I am sure those people who knew us well appreciated how difficult it was for me to be there without him. I would like to thank all those people for attending John's funeral & for all the cards & letters I received. The support was overwhelming.

I found that type has become quite diverse, much greater than ever before & a great difference in height & some quite common & coarse heads. Mouths surprised me as there were many exhibits undershot, level or wry. Size of incisors on many were also quite small.

Some exhibits looked very good standing but lost their topline on the move. There were some very odd front & hind actions. There were many exhibits that were particularly long cast, this I felt unbalanced them.

The dog world is going through difficult times since the programme that appeared on the BBC. When we were breeding Pointers, then we added other breeds, but we always thought how lucky we were that there wasn't the problems in Pointers as other breeds.

We are now asked to decide if an animal is 'fit for purpose'. I always thought that those puppies that didn't make the grade for purpose of showing were sold to pet homes. They were 'fit for purpose' of being a very good companion & lived with their owners giving pleasure for many years. I can recall having a conversation with a good old friend Shirley Rhodes, it was her opinion that there was nothing wrong with people showing a pet dog. I never agreed with this because they were placed in pet homes because they didn't make the grade for the show ring & were let go as pets.

MINOR PUPPY DOG (10)

1st Tibbs' Raigmore Skeewiff, I really liked this young dog, has much promise, lovely head, good length of foreface, muzzle square with fine curved tight lips, good stop, bright kind eyes, alert expression, good balanced skull, ears set on high, broad at top & tapering towards the end, long neck set into well placed shoulders, good oval bone & good pasterns. His feet will tighten. Nice depth & well ribbed, ribs reaching well back & falling away towards loin, tail set on high, well turned stifles, good angulation at the hock, hocks low set, presented well, standing covered the ground & presented with a series of flowing lines & graceful curves. Moved well & showed true Pointer character. BP;

2nd Atkins' Hawkfield Mischief Maker, b/w with some quality, nice head & eye, kind expression, lips fine & curved, good length of neck, well placed shoulders, good oval bone & oval feet, deep body, well ribbed for age, moved well;

3rd Blackburn-Bennett's Lokmadi Jay Todd at Kanix.

PUPPY DOG (3)

1st Baker's Flinthill Monty Don, 10 months b/w, nicely headed young dog with work & chiselling, nice muzzle, fine curved lips, good stop, kind bright eye & expression, ears set on high, nice length of neck set into well placed shoulders, deep brisket, well sprung ribs, presenting with flowing lines & graceful lines, good oval bone & feet, moderate turn of stifle & low set hocks. Requires more time to settle & strengthen in his movement;

2 Barrs-Gordon's Panoply Double Dare, stronger although had slightly more heavier head than 1. Built on flowing lines & does cover the ground standing & moving, good shoulder, good oval bone, good depth & stifles turned.

JUNIOR DOG (10)

1st Siddle's Wilchrimane Black Ice, quite a nice young dog & very well handled by his young handler. Good muzzle but would prefer slightly less lip. Good stop, kind eye & expression, good skull & free from coarseness, good ear placement, long neck set into well placed shoulders, good deep body, well ribbed & falling away correctly towards the loin, well coupled, good turn of stifle, low set hocks, covered the ground standing & moving, moved well with drive from the hock, good width & expanse of thigh, good tailset, showed true Pointer character when moving. I originally placed him 2nd but on the final move round the ring I preferred his shape, movement & coupling, hence his place;

2nd Martin's Sunhouse Believe It Or Not, b/w, quality dog, covered the ground. Slightly longer cast than 1;

3rd Yeo's Thorncross Cornish Crusade at Trexon.

POST GRADUATE DOG (21,4) I found this a difficult class to judge, as previously discussed in preamble.

1st Smith's Lypal Pukka Tukka, won this class on his overall balance & movement, nice head & kind eye, good neck set into well placed shoulders, good depth & well ribbed, stifles turned with hocks low set;

2 Klein-Woolthuis' Haxalgate Balach Dubh, neat b/w with some style, nice head, depth & rib, stifles turned & hocks low;

3 Wilkinson's Hurwyn Harris Tweed.

LIMIT DOG (11,1)

1st Beesley's Birchleith Barbican Beau, nice dog, has lots of presence about him, good length of foreface & balanced skull, nostrils wide flared & moist, lips fine & curved, bright kind eye & expression, good ears & ear placement, thin leathers & set on high, long neck set into well placed shoulders, good depth, well ribbed falling away towards loin, well coupled & giving strength, hindquarters well muscled, good width & expanse of thigh, stifles turned & hocks set low, good tailset, good oval bone & feet, moved with drive from the hock & covered the ground well;

2nd Udale's Freddie Flintoff, a dog I really liked, good head type with work in it, good length of foreface, good lips well curved, bright kind eye & expression, good ears & ear placement, neck long & set into good shoulders, good front, legs & feet, good depth of body with ribs being well sprung, falling away at loin, stifles turned, hocks low set, covers the ground moving & standing. Preferred his head to 1 but I preferred 1's attitude;

3rd Langford's Papermill Cartridge.

OPEN DOG (10,3)

1st Blackburn-Bennett & Wilberg's Sh Ch Kiswahili Martin at Kanix, quality o/w, good head, built on flowing lines & graceful curves, covering the ground standing & moving, good muzzle, nostrils wide & flared, lips fine & curved, good stop, eyes kind & bright in expression, skull free of coarseness, good ears & ear placement, long neck springing cleanly from well placed shoulders, good front, good oval bone & oval feet, brisket deep, well sprung ribs reaching well back & falling away towards the loin, stifles turned & hocks set low, good tailset, well developed muscles, good expanse & width of thigh, nice style on the move, reaching low & long in front, good driving action from the hock & this won him CC & BOB;

2nd O'Driscoll's Fowington Five Bob Note, quality dog, a close call between 1 & 2. Very smart & honest dog, good head, good length of foreface, nostrils wide & moist, good muzzle, well curved lips, good stop, kind bright eye, lovely expression, good skull, well balanced throughout, good ears & ear placement, long neck set into well placed shoulders, good front legs & feet, correct oval bone & oval feet, well arched toes, good depth with ribs being well sprung & reaching well back & falling away correctly towards loin, strong coupling, good tailset, well developed hindquarters, good expanse & width of thigh, stifles turned & hocks set low, moved well driving from the hock. RCC, but I am sure could change places another day. He certainly deserves his title;

3rd Wilson's Bonnygate Imperial Choice.

MINOR PUPPY BITCH (13,1)

1st Tibbs' Raigmore Bawbee, b/w, lovely young bitch, litter sister to MPD winner, typical Pointer character, nice head, kind eye & expression, good length of neck set into well placed shoulders, good legs & feet, oval boned, good depth, well sprung ribs reaching back, stifles turned, hocks set low, moved well when settled;

2nd Young's Gundioy Argentine Tango, quality o/w, nice young bitch, good foreface & lip, nice eye & expression, long neck set into well placed shoulders, good depth & well ribbed, stifles turned & hocks set low, moved well;

3rd Walking's Lokmadi Love For Lydia at Kiswahili.

PUPPY BITCH (10,1)

1st Wilkinson's Flinthill Forget Me Not, very nice bitch, built on clean flowing lines throughout, nice head & expression, good length of foreface, square muzzle, lips fine & curved, good stop, kind bright eye & expression, good skull, good ears & ear placement, good length of neck & shoulder placement, good front, legs & feet, deep brisket, well sprung ribs, good coupling, good tailset, stifles turned & hocks set low, moved well. BPB;

2nd Edmondson & Robertshaw's Crookrise Free And Easy, o/w, nice head & expression, good reach of neck & shoulders, good front, legs & feet being of oval bone, good depth, well sprung ribs, stifles turned & low set hocks. Not quite as settled on the move as 1;

3rd Barker's Flinthill Daisy Chain.

JUNIOR BITCH (16,4)

1st Blackburn-Bennett's Kanix Beatrice, very nice b/w, has all the work & chiselling in head while remaining balanced & free from exaggeration, nostrils flared & moist, lips fine & well curved, bright kind eye & expression, good stop, nice skull, nice length of neck set into good shoulders, oval bone & feet, good depth, flows throughout, well ribbed, stifles turned & hocks low, well muscled, good first & second thigh, moved well;

2nd Martin's Sunhouse Believe In Me, b/w, quality bitch. Just preferred head & coupling of 1;

3rd Craik's Scobec Pure Passion.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (25,7)

1st Turnbull's Bonnygate Krystal Roses at Beridew, b/w, built on graceful curves & flowing lines, nice head, kind expression & eye, good ears & ear placement, lips tight & curved, good depth, well sprung ribs reaching well back, long neck set into well placed shoulders, good legs & feet being of oval bone, stifles turned & hocks set low, well muscled, good development in first & second thigh, good expanse & width, hocks set low, moved well driving from the hock;

2nd O'Driscoll's Fowington Caracas, b/w, nice head, kind eye & expression, ears set on high, broad at top & tapering towards the end, neck springs cleanly from well placed shoulders, good legs & feet, oval boned, good depth, good spring of rib & reaching well back, stifles well turned & her hocks set low, well developed first & second thigh, good expanse & muscular development, moved well;

3rd Anderson-Rowell's Wynhead Mette Marit.

LIMIT BITCH (21,4)

1st Macmanus' Crookrise Moondance at Luneville, I really loved this o/w, very well put together, flows throughout from the tip of her nose to her tail, built on graceful curves & flowing lines, free from any coarseness, loved her type & character, good head, square muzzle, lips fine & curved, good chiselling in head, nostrils flared & moist, deep stop, lovely eye & kind expression, good skull, good ears & ear placement being high set, broad at top & tapering towards end, long neck set into well placed shoulders, good front, legs & feet being of correct oval bone, well arched toes & good padding, good depth, well sprung ribs reaching well back & falling away correctly, strong couplings but remaining lissom & athletic, good tailset, good turn of stifle, well developed first & second thigh, well muscled & good expanse & width of first & second thigh, hocks set low, good angulation, powered herself away with good driving action from the hock, covered the ground standing & moving, true Pointer type & character, lively & active mover. Easily my best bitch & one who I would love to handle & own. I feel if treated fairly she should have no problem in gaining her title. CC & pushed hard for BOB, another day another decision. She took me back to the late '70s;

2nd Westaway's Pentwest Phedra, l/w, not the head of winner but pleasing. Good eye & kind expression, good length of foreface & nice lip, good length of neck, well placed shoulders, good legs & feet being of oval bone, deep body & well sprung ribs, well coupled, stifles turned & hocks set low, moved with drive;

3rd Tibbs' Raigmore Let It Shine.

OPEN BITCH (13,3)

1st Blackburn-Bennett's Sh Ch Chesterhope North 'N' Breeze, quality bitch who flows, not quite the lines of the CC winner but does deserve her title. Built on clean lines, good neck, shoulders, front, legs & feet, deep body, well sprung ribs that reach well back, falling away towards the loin, stifles well turned, good development of muscles & thighs, hocks low set, moved with plenty of drive. RCC;

2nd Macmanus' Crookrise Arran at Luneville, nice type & quality, moved well;

3rd Knowles' Sh Ch Dovehayes Facsimile.

BRYN WILLIAMS - Judge