

GUNDOG SOCIETY OF WALES CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

Wednesday 16th October 2019

A challenging but enjoyable day judging and special thanks to the GSOW Committee, my very capable stewards and exhibitors for a lovely entry.

The ring was quite small, so it was hard to assess movement, especially with the dogs who really needed to be able to stride out. I found a wide variety of type which in some respects, is good for the breed as it reduces the risk of prevalent health problems, but I do feel there is a danger we could lose the essential Pointer characteristics which enable our dogs to hunt and find birds. Stamina, alertness and scenting ability have to be priorities rather than simply good looks and winning in the show ring.

That said, I was very happy with my winners, particularly my best of breed who has proved her worth on the moors as well as in the showing.

MINOR PUPPY DOG (2)

1st Walkling's Wilchromane Tambuti with Kiswahili. Six month old o/w, just a baby but well made, with good reach of neck, well set shoulders and strong hindquarters, dark eye and pleasing head with well defined stop. Moved well for his age. BP and shortlisted in the group, very promising.

2nd Gordon & Howarth's Hawkfield Jolly. Another six month o/w, longer in body than first and not as mature or settled on the move but attractive head and expression. Happy and confident in the ring.

PUPPY DOG (1)

1st Osman's Fleurfield Hidden Depths via Marissolo. Upstanding nine months o/w, enjoying his day out and keeping his handler on her toes. Liked his sloping pasterns, spring of rib and gentle expression. Just not as together as minor puppy winner.

JUNIOR DOG (7)

1st Henshaw's Sharnphilly Vice Versa with Peteshe. Have admired this b/w dog from ringside but sometimes he pratts around on the move. Today he outmoved the rest with smooth action and drive. Well balanced all through with neat tail, gentle expression and head with skull and foreface in proportion and slight dish.

2nd Wilcox's Pipeaway Dreams Afyre in Merynjen. O/w of beautiful type, deep chest, gorgeous head and concave muzzle but just preferred outline and movement of first and he still has to mature.

3rd Astbury's Penwest Photo Finish for Dorbury.

YEARLING DOG (8, 1)

1st Henshaw's Sharnphilly Vice Versa with Peteshe.

2nd Pattie's Wilchromane Two For Tea. O/w lad, still to grow into himself, at awkward stage but attractive reach of neck, head and expression with dark eye. Good front and shoulders.

3rd Fox, Stilgoe & Stilgoe's Olivesong Chase The Memory to Teisgol.

NOVICE DOG (5)

1st Layton's Joneva Born To Thrill. 12 month old. O/w, strong all through but all the essentials there. Moved steadily, classic head and expression, should have bright future.

2nd Astbury's Penwest Photo Finish for Dorbury. Third in junior, this o/w boy is lovely type with correct front and hindquarters but still to mature as you would expect at this age. Moved well.

3rd Booth's Lundgarth Finch.

POST GRADUATE DOG (11) Mixed class.

1st Walkling's Flavio Del Almojon at Kiswahili (Imp). Liked the style of this elegant o/w on the move. Pleasing reach of neck and shoulder set and his head is well chiselled with good length of muzzle and skull. Needs more time but owner can be proud of him.

2nd O'Neill's Tenshilling Biscuits JW. Another o/w, different type and heavier than first, good drive on the move from his strong hindquarters. Deep chest, enough spring of rib and appealing head and expression.

3rd Booth's Lundgarth Teal.

LIMIT DOG (8,1)

1st Lathwell's Tinchitamba Waiting Game. This b/w is elegant but unmistakably masculine and stood out in the class for his balance and construction. He strode out round the ring as if he owned it, head up and using his tail. Lovely head and expression, good topline, happy boy. I hope top honours come his way soon.

2nd Blackburn-Bennett's Kanix Obi Stargang. This o/w was my best pup in show last time I judged and he did not disappoint. Flowed stylishly round the ring, neat tail, beautifully made. Just preferred size and outline of first but this is a lovely dog and also deserves top honours.

3rd Coggins & Adams' Droveborough DCI Lewis at Gemrose.

OPEN DOG (7) Very strong class.

1st Rayner, Spinks & Pringle's Freebreeze Over The Top At Spinray. This well handled liver/w is a proper Pointer, nothing overdone or flashy, strong but not heavy and a series of graceful curves. He moved round the ring with head up checking out everything around him to win DCC. Good size, perfectly proportioned head with alert and keen expression. Found out later this was his third CC – well done. Just preferred overall balance of bitch in the challenge.

2nd O'Neills' Sh Ch Chesterhope Thrill Of Tchase (Imp NZ). A worthy show champion, beautiful o/w, fits the breed standard in so many ways, with pleasing spring of rib and balance, well handled to move smoothly round the ring. Preferred type and movement of one but happy to award him RCC.

3rd Tibbs' Fydal Beeswing at Raigmore.

VETERAN DOG (4,1)

1st Watkins & Davies' Sh Ch Hurwyn Law N Order JW. A 7 year old b/w and favourite of mine who has got better and better with age, smooth lines all through, lovely topline, moved with effortless gait, loved his head and expression. Sire of previous class winner and my BOB. Best Veteran.

2nd Evans & Pavey's Sh Ch Joneva Diamond In The Rough. Nine years o/w who moved like a youngster and another who has got better with age but today, had to give way to youth of first. Lovely head and expression, balanced in construction.

3rd Bradley's Teisgol King Alfred at Dappledown.

MINOR PUPPY BITCH (4, 2)

1st Gordon's Hawfield Happy. lemon/w, just a baby at 6 months but all the essentials there, liked her spring of rib and sloping pasterns. Sweet head, very pretty, all to come.

2nd Clinton's Hawfield Merry with Oramiss. Lemon/w litter sister to first and similar stamp but not as mature. Another attractive babe having fun in the ring as a puppy should!

PUPPY BITCH (7, 1)

1st Hinton's Fleurfield Truly A Secret. Liked this b/w on the stack as she is well constructed and balanced for her age. Deep chest, good reach of neck and shoulders, powerful hindquarters. BPB but preferred movement of dog pup for BP.

2nd Anderson-Rowell's Daledancer Rita Owla. O/w pup who moved with style and drive but who needs time to grow into herself so lost out to maturity. Happy girl, alert, very promising. Lovely type.

3rd Lathwell's Riverflight River Song at Tinchitamba.

JUNIOR BITCH (6, 2)

1st Booth's Ragus Go Truly at Lundgarth. B/w bitch with lovely spring of rib, pleasing neck and hindquarters, good size and well balanced for her age. Appealing head and expression and nice type, moved well.

2nd Tibbs' Raigmore Worth The Wait. 12 month old o/w, liked her type and movement but preferred hindquarters and type of first. She has a lovely topline, classic head and dark eye, she just needs time.

3rd Swannell's Rickory Ask Me Nicely.

YEARLING BITCH (5, 3)

1st Wilkins' Wilchrimane Iced White for Lorttieboo. Loved this pretty o/w with her lacey ears and dark eye. Elegant in outline and moved effortlessly. Should challenge the best when she is older.

2nd Webster & Goodwin's Millpoint Air Wave. B/w, reserve in previous class but more relaxed now and moved better. Good hindquarters, shoulders and spring of rib, just needs to settle in the ring.

NOVICE BITCH (3)

1st Fox's Teisgol Hot Chocolate. 15 month liver/w who moved well and is mature for her age. Pretty head and made a lovely picture on the stack. Will watch her develop with interest.

2nd Webster & Goodwin's Pennystone Sunny Daze. Mature girl, appealing head and expression, enjoying her day out, very happy and confident but needs to settle in the ring to show herself off.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (14, 5) Wide variety of types in this class.

1st Hinton's Fleurfield Morning Glory. O/w won for her elegance and excellent construction, flowing lines. Sound on the move, dark eye, balanced head and muzzle, outstanding example of her type.

2nd Wilkinson's Stocksfell Seldom Seen. Preferred elegance and lighter bone of first but this o/w bitch moved well and has a sweet head and expression. She is mature for her age, with well let down hocks and sloping pasterns and moved steadily with her handler.

3rd Philipps' Waterton Remember Me.

LIMIT BITCH (15, 5) Impressive class – first three could change places on different days.

1st Hewitt's Droveborough Miss Marple. Liver/w bitch, nothing exaggerated, reminded me of pointers from years gone by. Wish there were more of her type today. She has beautiful lines and curves, gentle, melting expression and flowed round the ring with easy stride, strong contender for top honours.

2nd Tibbs' Sharnphilly Escada at Raigmore JW. Unfortunate to meet first whose head and skull shape I preferred but this b/w is a pleasing size, liked her spring of rib and balance, front and rear. She has a neat tail and went round the ring with pace and drive. I could imagine her working on the moor.

3rd Blowers' Fydal Blown Away to Deadaway.

OPEN BITCH (6,1)

1st Elrington's Ch Ansona Cinderella JW. Thrilled to see how well this b/w bitch has matured since I awarded her the RCC two years ago and I had no hesitation in giving her CC and BOB today. She has all characteristics that for me, make the pointer such a special breed – balanced, strong and confident on the move with head up and lashing tail, bright and keen, fit and well muscled. She is a joy to go over, with deep chest, well sprung ribs, neat tail, everything in the right place, gleaming coat and a credit to her owner.

2nd Hazeltine, Razell, Spey, Oldfield & Lopes' Am Ch Bookstor Fabello Kinky Boots (Imp USA). Stunning o/w bitch, new to me and well worthy of top honours and RCC. Full of presence and character on the move, demanding attention. Dark eye, very attractive on the stack with her graceful curves and well presented. Lovely topline which she held on the move, excellent second thigh and tail set. Only two years old and definitely one to watch.

3rd Blackburn-Bennett's Sh Ch Kanix Orient at Stargang.

VETERAN BITCH (5, 1) Needed four red cards for this class for these four beautiful ladies!

1st Isherwood's Pipeaway Satin Fire with Symitry. Won class for her exuberance, and alertness, well made o/w good size, gorgeous head and expression, moved well for her 9 years.

2nd Booth's Crookrise Wren. Not the balance of first but a typey 7 year old o/w bitch who strode out round the ring with lashing tail, lovely head and expression.

3rd Brooksmith's Nightgold Blackavar.

FLO BARKER - judge