

Gundog Breeds Association of Scotland Championship Show Saturday 12th November 2011

I would like to thank the committee for their kind invitation to judge at this show, and hope they were as pleased with the number of entries as I was. The hospitality from the Society is second to none and I thoroughly enjoyed the pre-show evening get together, where respective judges had a chance to mingle and relax before a busy days judging. I was pleased with my overall entry and was certainly impressed since my last judging appointment that mouths had improved. I only had a couple of bad mouths. However, what is more noticeable is the size of the dogs teeth. I had to struggle on some exhibits to look at the teeth as they were so small. Fronts have some way to go to get back to the correct breed standard as we are still seeing the upright forearm that has become the fashion, which results in upright shoulders, and in turn means the front action is impeded and cannot reach forward showing off the Pointers true low, long stride. Although we had a reasonable sized ring, I much prefer to judge outside as exhibits do perform much better. I was somewhat concerned about the rear action of some dogs I have admired from afar, they did not use the hind action to advantage and looked like they couldn't use their quarters correctly. It is well known that I like exhibits to be well muscled and fit as the breed dictates as Pointers are the epitome of fitness when exercised correctly. However, I still found some exhibits rather fat and soft, which is a shame as it spoils the breed. I'm glad to say my winners were all fit and muscled. I had some heart-breaking decisions to make when deciding on placings, which is a good thing as this surely meant that I was presented with good exhibits and on another day in another venue, I'm sure places would change. However, on the day I had to make my choices and each class was applauded well, which, as one exhibitor said to me afterwards, is a very nice thing to hear, as we, unfortunately, have not been hearing much cheering from the ringside lately. My major winners were cheered loudly both in the breed ring and the big ring, where they did not disappoint by being shortlisted in the finals. It may sound strange, but to see exhibitors weep with delight truly is a joy to behold, as it made me feel that they still get that emotional feeling when being handed the CC.

My Dog CC was an outstanding specimen, being 9 years old, he certainly showed the youngsters how to do it in style. Moving with precision and drive, holding his topline on the move. It's a joy to go over this dog, his shoulder placement is spot on. Head properties are correct and he has a masculine air about him. A well muscled specimen, he deserved his third CC, to much applause. From the veteran right down to the puppy, you could not get any further, but this is where I awarded my RCC. His outline and head carriage were very pleasing and he certainly had that air about him that will attract attention when he matures. Onto bitches, where I had wonderful classes, having to make some heart breaking choices. If I could have had more CC's then four bitches would have gone home with one!! I had to really work them out for my final placings. I thought my veteran was a wonderful specimen and on the move she excelled, her profile is stunning and I was pleased to go over her, as we do not have many bitches of that quality and history behind their pedigree. However, on the day I really was spoilt for choice and gave top honours to a youngster I have not come across before. Her handler made sure she got every co-operation out of her by being at one together on the move. When standing she is a picture and does not disappoint on going over her. In the big ring she went with enthusiasm and drive after a long and tiring day and I was not disappointed in her performance. It was a hard decision to make between the veteran and puppy for RCC, but once again, I awarded it to the puppy. Her outline is perfect and when moving she holds her topline strong and level. Her shoulder construction is extremely pleasing and she uses her front extension and rear drive to manoeuvre correctly.

VETERAN DOG

1st Howe's Medogold Funtime Frankie. Beautiful head properties with correct lip, mouth and eye set, good rise to skull without being overdone, very masculine in outlook with an air of superiority about him. Shoulders set on correctly leading into level topline, correct depth to brisket with ribs well back, moved with precision and drive, showing his correct length of stride. Very pleased to award him his crown.

PUPPY DOG

1st O'Driscoll's Gartarry Moonlight Flit To Fowington. Beautiful youngster with excellent head, he has an air of grace and personality about him, which I found appealing. Excellent bone, front and rear quarters, moved well to take the RCC, which I was pleased to award from strong competition. Hope he goes onto greater achievements.

2nd Eldridge's Sniperay Whicky Mac Of Bradgate. Well constructed with glorious head, moved really well, just needs to drop in brisket, which will come with maturity. Nice dog.

3rd Luke's Sniperay Royal William.

JUNIOR DOG

1st Barker's Flinthill Chocolate Thyme. Nice dog, very balanced throughout, level topline, good feet, correct width to thighs, ribs well back, good head properties with correct turn of lip, well muscled, moved well.

2nd Ross & Grant's Beagmhor Wilfred Babbage. Strongly made youngster, correct shape, good bone and topline, moved well.

3rd Thorley's Gempoint Dreams N' Goals.

YEARLING DOG

1st Howe's Medogold Zhivago. Handsome lad, excellent bone and feet, front construction correct, held topline on the move, moves with correct length of stride, fantastic temperament on him, well muscled, in great condition.

2nd Moulding's Billsborough Billy Whizz. Well constructed and muscled, beautiful head, good depth to brisket, ribs well sprung, kept his topline well on the move.

3rd Theobald's Tycarreg Strangely Familyr JW ShCM.

POST GRADUATE DOG Good class.

1st Huxley's Saregresi Fame Of Gold At Woodfleet. Really liked this dog who is muscled to perfection, very fit. Great head carriage, shoulders set on correctly, ribs carried well back, tail set on correctly, moved really well considered him for the RCC. Really liked him.

2nd Martin's Sunhouse Believe It Or Not JW ShCM. Lovely b/w, really liked his outline, correct front and rear, another well muscled, moved well, hard decision between these two.

3rd McBurnie Nicholls Stonesview Henry.

LIMIT DOG Nice class.

1st Hinton's Fleurfields Flambeau.

2nd Lavery & McNab's Gideon The Profiler ShCM. Hard decision between these two dogs. Both have excellent qualities and were very fit. Good ribs and couplings. Toplines held on the move with correct tailset. Would like to have judged these outside to see their true extension on the move, as I felt the ring didn't do them justice.

3rd Alcorn's Afterglow Bare Face Lie At Kanix ShCM.

OPEN DOG

1st O'Driscoll's Sh Ch Fowington Five Bob Note JW.

2nd O'Neill's Hurwyn Some Might Say JW. Really liked these two, both had good qualities, correct feet and well muscled all over. Beautiful heads with correct mouths and turn of lip. Moved really well using the ring to advantage. Had to choose a winner and I just felt that winner had the edge on his shoulder placement. Well done to you both.

3rd Gordon's Hawfield Dapper In Black JW.

VETERAN BITCH

1st Pimblett's Sh Ch Pennine Paparazzi JW. 7 year old beautiful l/w. Excellent throughout, her head is a sheer delight with correct lip and mouth, eyes of correct colour for coat, body construction is excellent with correct placed shoulders and depth to brisket with ribs well back, good width to thighs, moved really well and I had to make a heart rending decision when considering the top honours. Thank you for bringing her, it was a pleasure to judge her.

2nd Bond's Sh Ch Porschet Midnight Affair At Medogold JW. 10 year old who moved out really well with excellent front and rear construction, a nice exhibit.

3rd Adams-Heighway's Sniperay Salamis.

PUPPY BITCH

1st Radcliffe's Sniperay Star Turn. Very well named youngster who gave the older exhibits a real run for the top awards. Really sound on the move and she holds her head and topline correctly with tail lashing correctly. Excellent feet and bone without being coarse. Shoulder placement spot on with an excellent layback, very happy youngster who is fit all over. Correct reach to front extension and she uses her quarters to drive off with power and grace. Very pleased to award her the RCC from strong competition.

2nd Martin's Gartarry Moonlight In Sunhouse. Loved both these two bitches. Head on this youngster is beautiful with pleasing expression. Another one well muscled with great temperament, beautiful outline, used the ring well on the move.

3rd Jones' Pippalee Georgia.

JUNIOR BITCH

1st Radcliffe's Sniperay Star Turn.

2nd Ross & Grant's Beagmhor Myrtle Bagot. Excellent ribs, lovely type with correct front construction, rather overweight, which spoils her as she is a nice exhibit.

3rd Porter's Beagmhor Henrietta Vincent.

YEARLING BITCH

1st Nicholls' Lokmadi Francis Partridge At Stonesview. Well, what a surprise find she was. Beautiful o/w with a glorious expression, correct mouth, turn of lip. In profile she has correct quarters front and rear and when going over her she does not disappoint. Shoulder placement very pleasing, flowing into level topline held on the move. Correct spring of rib without being coarse and correct couplings, well muscled thighs which enabled her to move with power and grace, being at one with her handler. Very pleased with her fitness and weight which is spot on. She gave her all in the challenge where I had a line-up of outstanding bitches and she took the top spot with BOB, much to the delight of the ringside. She excelled in the Group where she showed her extension on the move. Well done, I truly hope she gains her title.

2nd Beagmhor Henrietta Vincent.

3rd Hambling's Hawfield Making Wave At Chasover.

POST GRADUATE BITCH Good class.

1st Pimblett's Hildon Newzflash. Well constructed, excellent head properties with beautiful expression. Good bone, shoulders set on well into level topline which she kept on the move. Beautiful quarters, really strode out well for handler. Really liked her. When looking at her breeding, I found she is the daughter of my veteran class winner. Well done.

2nd Callander's Hintons Fleurfields Felicia Of Shambellie. Lovely bitch, very balanced throughout with good forehand and quarters, moved well for handler.

3rd Madigan's Fairbairn Misperros Jumanji Of Carmelfair.

LIMIT BITCH Another good class with hair splitting decisions to make.

1st Wilkinson's Flinthill Forget Me Not JW. Liked her profile and when going over her was not disappointed. Strong bitch without coarseness, lovely head and expression, correct mouth, shoulders, well placed into level topline, deep brisket, tail set, correctly which she used when moving. In excellent condition, moved out well to take this good class. Handler needs to ensure she sets her up to advantage as she is a nice bitch. Well done for taking this class.

2nd Luke's Sniperay Ambler Gambler. O/w, beautiful throughout, very feminine and graceful, in excellent condition, fantastic pasterns with correct shaped feet, lovely bone, front and rear quarters are a joy. Used her tail well on the move. Could have moved with a little more extension and I would have liked to judge these two outside in a large ring where the placings may have changed. Hard luck to meet the winner.

3rd Sillince's Tomlow Night And Day.

OPEN BITCH

1st Howe's Sh Ch Medogold Double Dizzy JW ShCM. Beautiful youngster with a glorious head and expression, correct turn of lip and mouth, forehand is excellent, as is her quarters, which are well muscled. Used her tail on the move, in great condition, moved out with precision and drive. A pleasure to judge her.

2nd Hinton's Sh Ch Fieldstone Fascination With Fleurfield. Overall a nice bitch with good forehand and quarters, deep brisket and lay to ribs.

3rd Bond's Pharises Aphrodites.

Pauline M. Smith - judge