

Welsh Kennel Club Championship Show

Sunday 18th August 2013

Thank you to all exhibitors for entering and accepting my decisions in a gracious manner, also to my two stewards who did a superb job of keeping the proceedings moving along nicely. There was a very pleasant atmosphere around the ring and applause for the winners, which was nice to hear.

I was very pleased with the quality of the entry overall and was spoilt for choice in some classes. In some cases those that pleased on the stack disappointed on the move. It is also becoming harder to find 'type' with some of the breed characteristics missing from otherwise very nice dogs – we must seek to avoid producing 'generic' show dogs and focus on maintaining breed type in conjunction with soundness and correct construction. This is what sets the Pointer apart from other gundog breeds and should not be lost. I noticed several with a high tail carriage and very few were well-muscled which for a galloping breed is disappointing.

Minor Puppy Dog (3, 0)

Nice babies that could change places on another day.

1st Adams' Ansona Albert Einstein, 7 mths, b/w, attractive young boy. Pleasing head with correct proportions, kind, dark eye. Balanced angulation front and rear, correct slope to croup with a well set tail, used on the move. Movement was rather loose, as you would expect from a young puppy but he won this class as he showed with more positive movement that, when he matures, should develop into ground covering, smooth movement.

2nd Warford's Lakespar Sweet Sensation, 6 mths, b/w, another attractive puppy of a slightly heavier build. Lovely head and expression with kind, dark eyes; lengthy neck into well laid shoulders. Needs to drop a little in brisket but that will come. Moved steadily for such a young puppy and just lost out as he was not as positive on the move as the winner.

3rd Saunders' Teisgol Massalia

Puppy Dog (1,0)

1st Blackburn-Bennett & Wilberg's Coralwood Kanix Mr T, 9 mths, o/w upstanding dog. Mature head with correct proportions; kind expression. Lengthy neck into sloping shoulders; strong body with short-coupled loin. Tail well set and used on the move. He is an accurate mover coming and going; in profile he is striking on the move with his driving hind action and low, reaching front action – he impressed me greatly. Stood alone here but was a worthy **BPIB**.

Junior Dog (2,0)

1st Beesley's Ridanflight Rhodri at Birchleith, 17 mths, o/w, raw young dog with all the essentials there for the future. Well moulded head with excellent pigment giving a kind expression; lengthy, clean neck into well laid back shoulders; pleasing body proportions. Rear angulation correct allowing him to drive on the move. Unsettled moving at first but as he got into his stride he showed good scope. Needs to settle a little in front movement but he has time on his side. He won this class from his litter brother on his overall balance and smoother movement.

2nd Langridge & Rose's Ridanflight Rhys under Bagersmoon, 17 mths, o/w, litter brother to winner. Attractive dog that was not at all settled or happy in the ring. He has a lovely head and expression; needs to drop into his brisket. Rear angulation good. He let himself down on the move where he was very erratic; front movement in particular needs to settle.

Novice Dog (1,1)

Post Graduate Dog (9,1)

This was a nice class with some promising young dogs, however some lost places on their high tail carriage that spoils the outline on the move.

1st O'Driscoll's Gartarry Moonlight Flit to Fowington, 2 yrs, o/w. Stylish dog that took my eye on entering the ring. Head of correct proportions showing a slight dish-faced appearance; classy. Front and rear angulation correct although he does need to drop slightly in brisket to complete the picture. Strong body and in excellent, hard condition. Tail set on well and of correct shape and length – a bee-sting. On the move he commanded my attention as he moves with power and style to cover the ground effortlessly – liked him a lot. He won this class on his way of going over a very smart boy in 2nd.

2nd Bradley's Teisgol King Alfred, 3 yrs, b/w who I see I have placed well before. Classic head with dark eyes and kind expression; so balanced all through. Not a 'flashy' dog but so very sound on the move and lovely to go over. He moved well to cover the ground smoothly – I feel that he is a dog that should have a bright future.

3rd Tobin & Moss's Davigdor Rough and Tumble JW

Limit Dog (9,0)

What a class! Here I was spoilt for choice and several nice dogs went unplaced. Their day will come.

1st Theobald's Tycarreg Strangely Familyr JW ShCM, 3 yrs, b/w. My star of the day! This dog fits the standard so well in all departments. Stunning slightly dished head with dark eyes; good length of neck into shoulders that show correct lay-back; brisket to elbow. Strong body with good spring of rib; short, well-muscled loin. Croup correctly angled, tail well set, of excellent shape and length. On the move this dog came into his own – he covers the ground with power and reach. He is spot-on for size too. Well-presented and handled to advantage. Pleased to award him the **DCC** – I believe this is his 3rd and crowning CC. In the run-off for **BOB** he stepped his movement up another notch and could not be denied.

2nd Perkins' Kanix Fate of Brent JW, 19mths, b/w. What a lovely young boy! Lovely head with correct length of foreface, dark eyes with kind expression. Lengthy, clean neck into well laid back shoulders. Front and rear angulation spot on – he is strong through the body with good spring of rib. Rear angulation is correct with good expanse of 1st and 2nd thigh. On the move this boy went up a gear – really showed himself off as a sound and powerful mover covering the ground effortlessly. Delighted to award him the **RCC** – I am sure he will trouble the best! He only lost out to 1st on maturity – it was a close decision.

3rd Whitham's Moordale Maritime at Sedgekirk

Open Dog (3,1)

Two dogs that I have placed well before and that I like very much.

1st Evans & Pavey's Sh Ch Joneva Diamond in the Rough JW, 3 yrs, o/w. A very worthy champion who is stylish on the move. Pleasing head and expression; front angulation is excellent with brisket to elbow. Strong in body and well-muscled with well-turned stifles. Tail set on well and of good shape and length, used on the move. On the move he covers the ground well and with style. He won this class on his masculinity over another very smart dog. Considered for top honours but he lost out on front movement coming towards me in the challenge.

2nd Adams' Sh Ch Ansona Simple Simon JW ShCM, 4yrs, b/w, a lovely dog. Splitting hairs in this class. He is so stylish on the stack and flows from nose to tail. Shoulders well laid back and rear correctly angulated with good turn of stifle. Pasterns slope slightly and toes are well arched. On the move he covers the ground but 1st had better reach in front. Difficult decision as both are dogs are very worthy champions.

Minor Puppy Bitch (5,1)

1st Fleetwood's Tyremy Southseaspice, 8mths, b/w. Stood out in this class for her overall balance and style. Best of heads with good moulding for one so young. Lengthy neck into well-laid shoulders; brisket just to elbow. Strong body with good spring of rib. It was on the move that she set herself apart – good drive and reach for such a baby; will watch her progress with interest. Lost out on maturity for BPB.

2nd Roberts' Ansona Isadora Duncan at Byphar, 7mths, b/w. Sweet baby who is still very raw but has all the essentials in place. Nice head with kind expression; still needs to break but she has time. Good neck into well-laid shoulders – brisket needs to drop to elbow. Moved nicely but would like to see more extension in front – this will come when her handler lets her move on a bit more. She was very composed on the move but it would be nice to see her being a bit more of a puppy!

3rd Cannon, Elrington & Green's Ansona Grace Darling

Puppy Bitch (2,0)

1st Guy & Hinton's Carmandine Cookie Crumble by Fleurfield, 11mths, o/w. Lovely puppy who pushed hard for BP – just carrying a little too much weight which affected her outline. Best of heads with kind expression; clean, lengthy neck into correctly angled shoulders. Good body and well ribbed back; strong loin and short-coupled. Correct rear assembly with good tail and set. Moved with purpose and drive, covering the ground well. She is a quality puppy who is sure to have a bright future. For BP I just preferred the cleaner outline of the dog puppy on the day.

2nd Robert's Ansona Isadora Duncan at Byphar

Junior Bitch (5,0)

This was a difficult class to judge. Some that pleased on the stack fell apart on the move with front movement being of particular concern. The standard asks for smooth, ground-covering movement and definitely not a hackney action. This affected the placings in this class.

1st Lowe's Lowsmoor Little Karoo, 12mths, b/w. Unexaggerated young girl who does not show herself to full advantage but she is very well made. She has to be gone over to be fully appreciated. Head of good proportions and with excellent balance of foreface to skull; correct, balanced angulation front and rear. Correct croup and tailset. Movement was accurate and true but she does not make the best of her lovely construction. She won this class on her overall conformation and balance but I would like to see more enthusiasm on the move to complete the picture.

2nd Kelly's Fleurfield Faith of Kelval, 17mths, o/w. Attractive young lady who is another that does not always make the best of herself on the stack. Head of good proportions and balance; lengthy neck and good lay-back of shoulder. Strong body with muscular loin; well angulated rear. She comes into her own on the move where she covers the ground smoothly and with some style. I am sure both of these bitches could have a bright future. She won her place here on her correct balance on the stack from a bitch in 3rd that moved very well indeed but is not so balanced when stood.

3rd Burke's Kanix Gucci with Alcazar

Novice Bitch (6,0)

1st Lowe's Lowsmoor Little Karoo

2nd Guy & Hinton's Carmandine Cookie Crumble by Fleurfield

3rd Burke's Kanix Gucci with Alcazar

Post Graduate Bitch (8,1)

1st Smith's Fydal Ava, 2yrs, o/w, right up my street for type and style. Exquisite head with melting expression; dark eyes; good front assembly and body proportions; croup well angled with tail set on correctly. She moved with great enthusiasm and an ever-lashing tail to win this very nice class. She scored over 2nd in her front movement coming towards me as she was just a little tidier on the day. Would happily take this girl home! She pushed very hard for top honours but just could not match the front reach of the CC and RCC winners on the day. She is still a young girl and I am sure top honours will come her way in time.

2nd Macmanus' Luneville Strawberry Moon, 2yrs, lem/w, another I would happily take home with me! Many of the same qualities as the winner. She has excellent pigment which gives her the best of expressions; well moulded head and lengthy neck. Slightly steeper in croup than 1st; moved really well in profile, covering the ground smoothly. Coming towards me she was just throwing an elbow out but I am sure her day will come. A very close run decision.

3rd Siddle's Wilchrimane Maggie-mae

Limit Bitch (12,0)

A lovely class where I really was spoilt for choice. Several that I like went cardless such was the quality in front of me, and places could change on another day.

1st Evans and Pavey's Joneva Hazy Hazy Dream JW, 3yrs, o/w. A classy bitch from any angle. Lovely shaped head with correct proportions; slightly dish-faced appearance; dark eye giving a kind expression. She has a reachy, clean neck that flows into correctly angulated shoulders; angulation correct front and rear; tail set on well and carried level. She won this class on her ground covering movement – stylish and powerful yet looks effortless and smooth. Pleased to award her the **RCC**. I just preferred the size of my CC winner but she pushed her hard.

2nd O'Driscoll's Fowington Caracas, 5yrs, b/w. A new one to me and I very much liked her for type and balance. Classic head that is well-moulded with correct proportions; dark eye. Clean lengthy neck into well angulated front assembly. Strong body and well-muscled quarters; tail set well on correctly angled croup. Unexaggerated and more workmanlike than 1st but came into her own when moving where she commanded my attention – driving from the rear with no front lift, covering the ground with ease.

3rd Perkin's Luneville Honey Moon at Brent ShCM

Open Bitch (5, 1)

Class of quality bitches, all of whom I really like!

1st Siddle's Sh Ch Wilchrimane Ice Maiden JW, 3yrs, o/w. So much has been written about this top winning bitch already and she is a real pleasure to go over. She is elegant, aristocratic and powerful on the move. On the stack this bitch really fills the eye and closely fits all areas of the breed standard. Balanced head with kind expression; spot-on for front and rear angulation; true series of graceful curves; sloping pasterns and good expanse of first and second thigh. Movement effortless, smooth and ground-covering with true reach and drive. She is very true coming and going as well as in profile; moves without exaggeration or front lift. Pleased to award her the **BCC**. Today she was mildly affected by 'cold-water tail' but this did not detract from her quality and she did get her tail up and use it enough - I did not consider this to be a fault. She lost out on BOB as she was not moving with the same enthusiasm and power when challenging for BOB as she did in this class.

2nd Macmanus's Crookrise Moondance at Luneville, 7yrs, o/w, one that I really like and would happily take home. Most feminine of heads with correct proportions; slight dish-faced appearance. Ears set high and of correct shape and length. Good angulation in front but not quite as balanced in front as class winner; correct rear angulation with good turn of stifle. She is now a veteran but she is not showing her age! Moved well but could not match 1st for front reach. Stood above 3rd on her overall type and femininity.

3rd Elrington, Green & Cannon's Sh Ch Ansona Lucy Lockett

Judge: Mrs C Walkling