

THREE COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SHOW

Sunday 7th June 2015

Thank you to my stewards who kept the ring running smoothly and to the exhibitors for their entries and sporting acceptance of my placings. I was pleased with all of my class winners and, due to the limited classification leading to many large classes, there were many worthy exhibits that sadly went home cardless.

As with last time I judged there is a wide variation in type within the breed. The bitches show more consistency in this area than the dogs, where I struggled to find what I was looking for. The standard calls for a strong but lissom dog with smooth, ground covering movement; a series of graceful curves giving a thoroughbred look. This is what sets our breed apart. Front movement and tail carriage remain an issue and often in such large classes this was what discounted exhibits that had pleased on the stack.

PUPPY DOG (13, 1a)

1st Hazeltine & Welch's Just Wilbert, b/w, 8 mths, most together in the class; balanced head, kind eye, lengthy neck into well laid-back shoulders. Tail well set and carried correctly. Well turned stifles giving him a striking outline on the stack and powerful drive on the move. Won the class on his correct size and smooth, ground-covering movement.

2nd Wilberg's Larchwold Star Chaser at Kanix, b/w, 11 mths, from a bigger mould than 1. Balanced overall shape, masculine head with dark eye; reachy neck. Tail well set and carried level. He is an impressive mover who covers the ground well with some style but I preferred the size and type of 1.

3rd Welch's Hookwood As Good As Gold

JUNIOR DOG (10,2a)

1st Rayner, Spinks & Pringle's Freebreeze Over The Top at Spinray, liv/w, 16 mths, I have admired this young dog from ringside and he did not disappoint. Classic head, dark, expressive eyes, lengthy neck; body developing, well sprung ribs; lovely bee-sting tail used well on the move. On the move this dog is 'poetry in motion' – effortless, powerful, ground-covering. Just what I was looking for! On the stack he tenses a little which affects his outline - seriously considered him for top honours today and I am sure his day will come.

2nd Tannahill's Wynbury Walter Jack, b/w, 17 mths, another smart dog that moved impressively. Attractive head, lengthy neck and correct forehead angulation with slight slope to pastern. Body is balanced and he moves smoothly covering plenty of ground. Another to move in an effortless fashion. Just preferred overall type of 1.

3rd Macara & Macara's Kanix Kingdom over Cromasaig

POST GRADUATE DOG (15,2a)

1st Theobald, Phillips & Westaway's Penwest Pallaton JW, b/w, 2 yrs, typy, unexaggerated, balanced young boy. Classic head, dark eye; reachy neck; brisket to elbow with correct front angulation. Strong over the loin & good rear angulation providing the power for him to move so well. Smooth, powerful, effortless – he floats around the ring. He proved to be the 'heartbreaker' for me today as in the challenge he was flat and did not put all in which cost him top honours. RCC

2nd Gerrard's Hookwood Showpiece at Carmadine, o/w, almost 2 yrs, took my eye on the first go round for his sound movement. Pleasing head, correct length of neck and front angulation; ears set high; body developing well but he is still young and has some maturing to do. On the move he was light, covered the ground smoothly and was true coming and going. Lost out to 1 on maturity.

3rd Beesley's Ridanflight Rhodris at Birchleith

LIMIT DOG (16, 0a)

This class was full of quality dogs with many excellent dogs going unplaced. I could have done with more prize cards. 1st Blackburn-Bennett & Wilberg's Coralwood Kanix Mr T (imp USA), o/w, 2 yrs, up to size but balanced dog; correct angulation front and rear; head of correct proportions; lengthy neck into good shoulders. Well sprung ribs, elbows to brisket, good forechest which was lacking in many today. Moves with reach and drive, covering the ground smoothly which won him this class. In the challenge I preferred the size of my OD and PGD.

2nd Sillence's Tomlow Déjà vu, b/w, 2 yrs, super head with dark, kind eyes; shoulders well laid back, elbows to brisket. Correct angulation fore and aft which led to his impressive movement. He comes alive for me on the move, powerful drive from behind and excellent reach in front. Not quite as balanced on the stack as 1 but both lovely young dogs.

3rd Adams Ansona Albert Einstein JW ShCM

OPEN DOG (7,1a)

A tricky class to judge as all exhibits pleased me greatly and could easily change places. I made my choices on the overall way of going on the day.

1st Siddle, O'Neill & Medeiros' Am Can Seasyde Chesterhope Bingo naf taf (Imp USA), b/w, 1 yr, young dog that commands your attention with his stylish outline. Classic head with correct dish; kind, dark eye; lengthy neck into well laid back shoulders. Deep body, elbows to brisket; good forechest. Short coupled with a strong loin; well-turned stifles. On the move he went up a gear and strode out smoothly, driving from behind; effortless. Despite his youth he secured his 1st CC and BOB on his overall type and way of going.

2nd Perkins' Ir Sh Ch Kanix Fate of Brent CW15 JW ShCM, b/w, 3 yrs, a favourite of mine who was not putting it all in today. Pleasing head, dark eye; shoulders laid back; elbow to brisket with good ribcage. Good feet and sloping pasterns; stifles well-turned with good expanse of thigh. On the move he was not as powerful and smooth as 1 which cost him the place.

3rd Coggins & Coggins' Sh Ch Droveborough Born to Bound at Gemrose JW

PUPPY BITCH (15,2a)

A lovely class with some beautiful babies. With the absence of a MP class the younger puppies are often disadvantaged which is a shame. Places could easily change on another day!

1st Turner's Rafterhouse Cameo, o/w, 10 mths, pretty, classic head with melting expression; reachy neck; good angulation front and rear; well-turned stifles. Body developing nicely with a good spring of rib for a baby; elbows to brisket. Moved out well with reach and drive. I shall watch her future with interest - BPIB

2nd Bedson & Earl's Caithpoint Hear'say, b/w, 10 mths, very stylish who caught my eye on the move; longer cast than one and needs to come up on the leg just a little to balance; sloping shoulders; lengthy neck; head of correct proportions; kind expression. Body developing well; good turn of stifle. Moved with purpose and style, covering the ground well. Lost out to 1 on overall balance.

3rd Flemings' Rafterhouse Clarissa of Glenariff

JUNIOR BITCH (7,1a)

1st Hinton's Fleurfield Dances On A Dream, b/w, 12 mths, typy; lovely balanced head, dark eye; reachy neck into well laid-back shoulder; ribbed well back with short coupling and strong loin; pleasing outline overall. Well-turned stifles with good width to thigh. Movement is a joy to behold – smooth, powerful, ground-covering; this set her apart in this class.

2nd Flint's Wynbury Golden Chalice at Fleurfield, o/w, 17 mths, attractive, but not quite the head or expression of 1. Good length of neck; sloping shoulders; well-turned stifles. Body developing well; short coupled; correct loin which gave her the powerful movement which won her this placing over another great mover in 3rd.

3rd Swannell's Sharnphilly Rio Bella

POST GRADUATE BITCH (30, 7a)

Biggest class of the day and many that I liked went unplaced. I was disappointed that a few that I have previously admired were in such soft condition, and so overweight, that it affected their movement and they had to pay the penalty in such a large class.

1st Edmonson & Robertshaw's Calderside Amuse Bouche of Crookrise, liv/w, 2 yrs, old-fashioned, oozes type; caught my eye when she entered the ring. Classic head, slight dish, lots of work; correct eye colour; well-proportioned body; short-coupled with strong, muscular loin; brisket to elbow; prominent forechest, lacking in so many. Moved with such style; powerful drive with reaching front; smooth and effortless, which won her the class over a bitch that I also hugely admire. Was splitting hairs between these two! In the challenge she lost out as she was carrying a touch too much weight.

2nd Kelly's Fleurfield Faith of Kelval ShCM, o/w, 3 yrs, a real favourite of mine who was unlucky to meet 1 in such good form. Lovely head, kind expression; ear set high; well laid back shoulders; prominent forechest; brisket to elbow; slight slope to pasterns. Well sprung ribs that go well back; short coupled with strong loin. On the move this young lady floats – effortless, smooth, covering the ground; she was not quite as forward-going as 1 today but it was mighty close!

3rd Wilkinson's Hurwyn Rock on Ruby

LIMIT BITCH (9,0a)

A class full of quality exhibits. I had to nit-pick to decide on the placings with some lovely bitches not getting placed. Some of the younger exhibits looked immature in this class.

1st Smith's Fydal Ava, o/w, 4 yrs, my star of the day! One of my favourites and she was on top form today in her class. All pointer from her nose to the tip of her tail – she oozes type. She is just the right size for me, not too big. Stunning, feminine head; dark eye, kind. Lengthy, clean neck; correct front angulation; well-turned stifles. Body well ribbed; short coupled with muscular loin. Tail set well and used beautifully on the move. Moved with style, power and grace covering the ground; love her head carriage which says 'look at me'. She stole my heart!! CC – in the challenge for BOB the heat got to her and she was a little flat. I am pleased to hear that this was her 3rd CC – congratulations.

2nd Rankine's Tenshilling Rumour Has It Fyldefair JW ShCM, o/w, 3 yrs, a new one to me who greatly impressed. Another with a stunning head, dark eyes; excellent neck and shoulder; elbows to brisket; well developed body; well-turned stifles; tail set well and carried correctly. Comes into her own on the move – powerful driving action, smooth and covers the ground with reach. Hard decision between these two lovely bitches – I just preferred the shorter loin on 1.

3rd Dyer and Dyer's Sharnphilly Lulu Guinness JW

OPEN BITCH (6,1a)

What a class! I really like all of these bitches and it was splitting hairs for each placing.

1st Siddle's Sh Ch Wilchrimane Ice Crystal, o/w, 4 yrs, from ringside she has been one of my favourite bitches; full of type; stunning head; kind expression; well laid back shoulder; brisket to elbow; slight slope to pasterns; well sprung ribs with short coupling; strong, muscular loin. Well-turned stifles. On the move she drives from behind and covers the ground smoothly and effortlessly. In the challenge she was not moving as well as she did in the class. RCC

2nd Dyer & Dyer's Sh Ch Sharnphilly Juici Cuture JW, liv/w, 3 yrs, a very stylish girl; gorgeous head, balanced and feminine; lengthy neck, well laid shoulders; elbow to brisket. Well-bodied; ribbed well back; longer coupled than 1. Moved well with drive and reach but not as fluent as I have seen her. It was a close decision but on the day 1 pleased me more for type and balance on the stack. It was a very close decision as both are exceptional and a credit to the breed.

3rd Blackburn-Bennett's Sh Ch Kanix Chillli

Mrs C Walking - Judge