

SOUTHERN POINTER CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

Sunday 31st July 2016

DOGS:

Thank you to the club for inviting me to judge their championship show this year. This is an excellent venue with plenty of room and adjacent parking making for a lovely friendly atmosphere. Thank you as well to my very able stewards for all their assistance.

After over 40 years in the breed I'm proud to have been invited to judge all 4 breed clubs in the UK and Ireland at championship show level. I chose to judge dogs having more recently judged bitches at one of the other breed shows. I have seen many changes in the breed over the years and was pleased that the dogs presented to me were mostly not over sized nor over angulated at the back end – traits which seem to be creeping into the breed. There is still a problem with upright shoulders and pasterns which, as a galloping breed, can only cause problems in later life.

I was pleased overall with my final selection and would like to thank the exhibitors for taking my decisions so sportingly.

MINOR PUPPY DOG (5, 1 abs, 1w/d)

1st Davies' Ridanflight Radley - a raw 6 month lemon baby but nicely put together. Head needs to break which is to be expected at this age but he has a great reach of neck, lovely deep chest for one so young and correct stifle. Movement needs to settle but it was nice to see him enjoying his day

2nd Watkins and Davies Ansona Aladdin – 8 month old black and white baby with the most beautiful of heads. Not quite the front assemblage as my winner but he has a good spring of rib and bend of stifle. Another promising puppy.

3rd Smith's Sniperay Valencia at Tzaziki

PUPPY DOG (4, 1)

1st Dyer & Oddie's Sharnphilly Secretariat – striking 9 month old black & white boy. Has the most fabulous outline with the graceful curves required by the standard. Gorgeous head with correct chiselling and neatest of ears. Lovely reach of neck leading into correct shoulders. Correct depth for his age and good spring of rib and a lovely sweep of stifle. Fabulous lashing, beesting tail. Moved so well for a youngster holding his outline on the move. Surely has the brightest of futures! Couldn't be denied bpd and with the agreement of my co-judge BPIS

2nd Coggins & Adams' Droveborough DCI Lewis at Gemrose – another lovely puppy who was unlucky to meet my winner. Excellent headed dog who has good depth and stifle, not quite the layback of shoulder as one but still very promising

3rd Batchelor's Wilchrimane Clickety Click to Kielderpoint

JUNIOR DOG (6,2)

1st Wilcox's Objet D'art Du Morcaro at Merynjen (imp bel) – turned out to be my star of the day. Correct sized dog and although still a youngster at 17 months, is a strong powerful dog who excels in movement. He has a lovely masculine head with finest of ears and correct dish. Lovely front assemblage, great depth and spring of rib. He powered round the ring. So full of pointer type and shown in the best condition. He shone in this class and in the dog challenge to take the dcc. Think he'd had enough by the best in show challenge and had to give way to the more polished bitch.

2nd Stilgoe & Harrison's Enzo Del Almojon – another very handsome young man with the most beautiful of heads. Lovely neck and correct body. Well set on tail. Would prefer a bit more slope to his pasterns and some extra sparkle on the move - then he could trouble the best

3rd Barker's Flinthill Pimpernel

YEARLING DOG (2)

1st O'Neill's Tenshilling Home Alone JW – stylish young man, good neck and shoulders. Correct stifle with well let down hocks and oval feet. Moved with drive.

2nd Rose's Ridanflight Roller Blade – not as balanced as my winner but he has a lovely head and expression. Deep chest and correct bone and feet

MAIDEN DOG (4)

1st Dyer & Oddie's Sharnphilly Secretariat

2nd Wilson's Bonnygate Master Ghillie – not the head of my winner but he is a good overall shape and he really moved round the ring with great drive using his tail correctly.

3rd Watkins and Davies Ansona Aladdin

NOVICE DOG (4)

1st Dyer & Oddie's Sharnphilly Secretariat

2nd Wilson's Bonnygate Master Ghillie

3rd Batchelor's Wilchrimane Clickety Click to Kielderpoint

UNDERGRADUATE DOG (1, 1)

POST GRADUATE DOG (9, 1)

1st Turnbull's Marquis O' The Glen at Beridew – a well balanced dog of correct size and lovely flowing lines. He has a good front with correct feet, deep chest and spring of rib together with a good bend of stifle. Hocks well let down. Moved well, striding out. Shown in good condition and muscular tone. Delighted to award him the rcc. His time will come.

2nd Siddles' Wilchrimane C'mon Norbert – really liked this dog. He has a good overall body shape and a lovely head and expression. On the move he drives well reaching out. He just has a tendency to 'rocking horse' in the stance which denied him the class today.

3rd Rayner, Spinks And Pringle's Freebreeze Over The Top at Spinray

MID LIMIT DOG (7)

1st Hazeltine & Welsh's Just Wilburt by Hookwood JW ShCM – loved the flowing outline of this dog. He is a nice size, has a good front and strong driving action behind. Stronger in head than i normally like but he couldn't be denied the top spot in this class. Well handled.

2nd Stilgoe's Teisgol I Am The One And Only JW ShCM - another lovely dog standing. He has a beautiful head with melting expression. Good rear driving action just a tad wider in front than my winner

3rd Isherwood's Symetry Red Rascal

LIMIT DOG (6)

This was a lovely class. Liked all my placings.

1st Theobold, Phillip & Westaway's Penwest Pallaton JW ShCM - loved this black and white boy. He is full of breed type and the correct size. Not overdone in any way. He has a beautiful head and expression and is lovely on the move. At one point i thought he would be my overall winner today but sadly he just would not co-operate with his handler in the challenge.

2nd Hazeltine And Upton's Hookwood By George JW ShCM – a striking orange and white boy who has lovely flowing lines. He has real driving rear action which powers him round the ring. Just a bit weaker in pasterns than my winner but still a really lovely boy who could trouble the best.

3rd Weaver's Anniezu Lovely Day ShCM

OPEN DOG (4)

Another lovely class

1st Coggins & Adams' Sh Ch Droveborough Born To Bound At Gemrose JW – a striking liver and white boy. Full of type. He has a beautiful head and expression and he is a lovely mover – fore and aft. Just carrying a bit too much weight over the shoulder today to take top honours.

2nd Watkins & Davies' Sh Ch Hurwyn Law And Order JW – a dog i have always loved from the ringside. He just carries himself so well on the move. Not overdone in anyway. Melting expression. Today my winner just had better layback of shoulder but he is still a worthy champion.

3rd Theobold's Sh Ch Tycarreg Strangely Familyr JW ShCM

VETERAN DOG (4,1)

1st O'Neill's Hurwyn Some Might Say JW – nearly 9 years old and holding his years well. He is so full of type this dog. He has a lovely head and good strong body. Could show some of the youngsters how to move. Did consider him for higher honours.

2nd Gordon's Hawkfield Sun Kissed Sea – another handsome boy of nearly 9 years. Lovely lines from the tip of his nose to the tip of his tail shown in great condition. A credit to his owner.

3rd Edmondson & Robertshaw's Crookrise Floyd

FIELD TRIAL DOG (0)

BRACE (7)

1st Smith – a lovely well balanced team who moved with style

2nd Perkins

3rd Siddle

TEAM (1)

1st Stangroom – congratulations on such a well co-ordinated team!

SPECIAL STUD DOG (2, 1)

1st Edmondson & Robertshaw – a handsome boy accompanied by his progeny of all 4 colours

SPECIAL BROOD BITCH (2, 1)

1st Macmanus – very pretty lady with her typey offspring

Pamela Tibbs – judge (Dogs)

BITCHES:

I had been so looking forward to judging this show and I was in no way disappointed with an amazing array of quality bitches filling the classes.

I was most interested to read some of the comments, listed in Ria's notes in the dog press, where she reminded us of the critiques from other judges at the same show over the decades. In particular, Ron James' comments made me think before the day. I have now been in Pointers for over thirty years and have seen a lot of changes in the breed as he noted, & the opinion seems to be generally that the breed is losing some of its finer points. I have to say, however, that I thought the quality of the bitches was good.

Size in the bitches did not vary greatly, although there were a couple of tall ones. I still feel that one of the major construction faults is a short upper arm, & lack of angulation, which leads to shortness of forward extension. It is only when you see an exhibit with such shortness moving with another that has the correct balance of upper arm, that you realise how effortless the latter's movement is by comparison. Balance of angulation, fore & aft provides the Pointer with the ability to cover ground well.

There are some Pointers that are becoming over exaggerated in size & shape, but this did not really present itself on the day.

Heads were good on the whole, with only a few narrow skulls & a couple of wide ones. A few muzzles lacked balance to the width of skull & lost that square finish level with the nostrils & slight dished appearance. I was looking for that beautiful softness of expression & plenty of work in the skull. Some heads, although balanced, lacked this lovely chiselling & therefore seemed plain. Some didn't keep their aristocratic 'air' on the move.

I was pleased to see a lot of correct tails, not too long & being carried level with the back. Some feet were too 'catlike' with upright pasterns and would not cope so well with rough ground. Teeth were good, but I was slightly shocked with lack of cleanliness.

Having said all that, there were some very difficult decisions; several bitches deserved top honours, & it was weighing up the balance all along. I felt one or two exhibits were taken too fast & made movement difficult to assess.

Thank you so much to my efficient stewards who kept the afternoon going so well.

MINOR PUPPY BITCH (6)

1st Elrington's Ansona Cinderella, aptly named & certainly from the best fairy tale. This bitch charmed her way into first place. She is so balanced for her age, with excellent angulation, correct oval bone & well bodied. She has the sweetest of expressions, & fine, well set ears. Her tail is short & well set & she uses it on the move. Her movement is flowing & easy, she displays real poise that only a few have, & she is a real star in the making. BPB splitting hairs between her & the BPD for BP;

2nd Westaway's Ridanflight Raisen, another promising puppy. Slightly taller & with a nice outline, good bone. She has an elegant neck & good shoulders. Her movement showed drive & precision;

3rd Milford's Haramander Afrodite Almy.

PUPPY BITCH (10,1a) Some lovely puppies. The first three were exceptional.

1st Elrington's Ansona Cinderella;

2nd Dyer & Oddie's Sharnphilly Makybe Diva, a most appealing puppy with lovely flowing lines. Her head is developing well, & she has a melting expression, beautiful eyes. She has a short tail which she uses on the move & she moves correctly & fluidly. Will do very well;

3rd Perkins' Brent All About Me.

JUNIOR BITCH (10)

1st Hinton & Knowles' Fleurfield Finlandia, a really sound mature bitch, with good conformation all through. Strong, deep brisket, good bend of stifle, making powerful, easy movement. Pretty head, short tail, oval feet;

2nd Isherwood's Symitry Iced Ginger, very showy, pretty bitch with lovely chiselling. Loved her lashing tail, sound conformation & movement. Gives her handler a challenge, but has a very bright future;

3rd Bastin's Symitry Bright As A Button at Jarobede.

YEARLING BITCH (7,2)

1st Smith's Fydal Bedazzle;

2nd Siddle & Kruger's White Squall Seasyde Iced Tea, two glorious young bitches which were hard to separate. Both had the most beautiful, typical heads, with soft expressions & lovely eyes. 1 just had the edge on front angulation which showed in movement, but they were both sound, steady movers with short tails & good feet. Both showstoppers & heading for the top;

3rd Lowe's Lowesmoor Shiralee.

MAIDEN BITCH (9,4)

1st Dyer & Oddie's Sharnphilly Makybe Diva;

2nd Perkins' Brent All About Me, larger bitch. Really liked her in puppy. Very sound & with an excellent outline, good feet & tail. Correct balance to head & feminine. Another youngster that should do well.

NOVICE BITCH (14,6)

1st Elrington's Ansona Cinderella;

2nd Dyer & Oddie's Sharnphilly Makybe Diva;

3rd Hinton & Knowles' Fleurfield Finlandia.

UNDER GRADUATE BITCH (4)

1st Hinton & Knowles' Fleurfield Finlandia;

2nd Skinners' Bonnygate Miss Quiz at Juennerfly, smaller bitch with very precise & quick, sound movement. Prettiest of heads, very feminine expression, balanced outline & angulation. Good tailset & short tail, correct oval feet. Close up to 1;

3rd Stilgoe & Oliver's Asterope Lightening Star via Teisgol.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (11,1) Some good bitches throughout.

1st Hinton's Fleurfield Dances On A Dream, a really excellent bitch & considered for top honours. Her strength lies in her sound, well angulated conformation & flowing movement. Excellent shoulders, outline a series of graceful curves Feminine head & good head carriage on the move. Really swept round the ring!

2nd Swannell's Sharnphilly Rio Bella, this bitch also took my eye, & I much admired her. Pushed 1 all the way. Again, excelled in sound conformation & movement. Small differences, but splitting hairs. She also is one for now & the future;

3rd Stangroom's Pipeaway Laura Louisa at Lappakia.

MID LIMIT BITCH (8,3)

1st Isherwood's Symitry Tickled Pink, this is another delightful bitch, full of quality & charm. She pulled out all the stops today & moved so well. She has excellent all round conformation & presents an outstanding picture. She has the sweetest of expressions & is such a classical Pointer. She deserves top honours;

2nd Yeo's Pipeaway Wild Spice at Trexon, another very nice bitch with many of the same qualities. Classic Pointer head, sound conformation, short tail, good mover;

3rd Blair's Kanix Krystal Twinhoe.

LIMIT BITCH (10)

I didn't have enough cards to go round in this class, & I was so disappointed not to place a couple of bitches.

1st Isherwood's Symitry Tickled Pink;

2nd Brooksmith & Adams' Medogold Kiss N' Tell, so different but I loved her. Heavier bitch but so well made with exceptional front construction & such a sound, strong mover. She oozes quality & has a classic head. Shown to perfection;

3rd Barker's Flinthill Sunshine Suzy.

OPEN BITCH (13,3)

A variation in 'type' & so many deserving bitches. One lovely girl did not move well on the day & lost her place, sadly.

1st Rose's Ridanflight Rhonwen, this beautiful bitch took my breath away. Her head is classic & she has those lovely eyes which turn that expression into 'true Pointer'. She presents a picture of real poise & true balance & she moved fluidly yet strongly. CC & BIS with the agreement of my co-judge. So pleased this gave her, her title;

2nd Dyer's Sh Ch Sharnphilly Juici Cuture, quite different but so very special in every way. Excels in conformation & movement. A glorious bitch who is to be admired & will go down in history. RCC & RBIS;

3rd Smith's Sh Ch Fydal Ava.

VETERAN BITCH (6)

1st Anderson-Rowell's Wyndhead Mette Marit, pretty, feminine bitch, very well made & sound on the move. Would just like a little more of her. BVB;

2nd Stangroom's Lappakia Dune Song, quite tall, but elegant & a strong mover. A little straight in front but presents a nice outline, good bend of stifle & neat tail.

BRACE (7)

We were spoilt for choice here!

1st Smith's elegant pair;

2nd Perkins' sound, well matched pair;

3rd Siddle's brace.

TEAM

1st Stangroom's team which were so well matched & moved in unison.

BROOD BITCH

1st Crookrise Moondance at Luneville, again sound well constructed offspring!

JANET DRAKE – Judge (Bitches)