DARLINGTON CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SHOW Saturday 14th September 2024

I would firstly like to thank the society for inviting me to judge Pointers. My two friendly and efficient stewards kept the classes flowing for me and many thanks to all the exhibitors for allowing me the opportunity to judge their dogs – some deserved cards but sadly I did not have enough of them to go round, particularly in the higher classes! On a slightly negative note, we really do need to watch those tails.

Grp4, BOB & DCC: MARTIN, Mrs R & MARTIN, Miss R Sh Ch Sunhouse Banged To Rights

RDCC: WESTAWAY, Ms P Sh Ch Teisgol Keep On Going via Penwest JW

BCC: BLACKBURN-BENNETT, Mr J & BLACKBURN-BENNETT, Mrs J Kanix Skyfall RBCC: HINTON, Mrs M & LUKE, Mrs J & LEMAN, Mrs H Fleurfield Black Caviar

BPIB: GERRARD, Mrs M & BELL, Mrs C & GALLOWAY, Mr Riowood C'mon It's Time for Carmandine

BVIB: GORDON, Ms W Hawkfield Audacity JW [ai]

VETERAN DOG (1 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st Gordon's Hawkfield Audacity JW [ai]. 7-year-old O/W. He has the loveliest of heads and expressions. He excels in front and rear angulation and stands his ground well. Moved with enthusiasm, clearly enjoying his time in the spotlight. Pleased to award him Best Veteran in Breed.

MINOR PUPPY DOG (1 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st Millett's Laveto Remember When. This 6-month-old B/W baby was having a lot of fun! He too has a lovely kind expression, has the darkest of eyes and an elegant neck leading to good shoulders. He has plenty of bone and body which I do like to see on a puppy. His movement was very enthusiastic but once he settles, he can move well, using his neat tail too.

PUPPY DOG (2 Entries, Abs: 0). Two very different types in this class.

1st Trueman's Millpoint Bamburgh Boy. Very much a loose baby still at 11 months old but with time and further ringcraft I think he will make a lovely dog. O/W. He just pipped this class on his front and rear angulation for me. A masculine head. He has plenty of heart room. I also liked his topline when stood. 2nd Westaway & Eldridge's Bradgate Yours Truly. This 11-month-old Li/W boy gave his handler a hard time. He has a lovely long neck and plenty of depth to his chest. He is also shown in excellent condition with plenty of muscle for one so young. My notes say 'an honest dog' and once he settles on the move he can really go with plenty of reach and drive.

JUNIOR BITCH (6 Entries, Abs: 1)

1st Marsh's Alozia Zealandia for Ratchda JW. This 14-month Li/W is a dog that needs to be gone over to really be appreciated. He won this class on his movement. He too is in top condition, and nothing is overdone on him. Lovely ears, deep in chest, neat tail.

 2^{nd} Clinton's Hawkfield Happy Feet at Oramiss. 12-month-old O/W who has the best of pigmentation and is a lovely rich orange in colour. He has a lovely head, another with good depth and has lovely feet. Plenty of angulation both ends but was just not quite as together on the move today as 1^{st} place.

3rd Henshaw & Goodchild's Berseydale Straight Flush with Peteshe [Imp MLT]

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POST GRADUATE BITCH (8 Entries, Abs: 1)

1st Martin & Martin's Sunhouse I'll Be Black (ai). When you look at this dog you know which kennel he is from. 20 months old B/W. Another that gave his handler a hard time as he tends to lean back when stood. He has a good head, great depth, good shoulder placements, plenty of width to thigh, also moved well, using his tail.

2nd Bell's Brent Deville's Advocate at Owlspoint (ai). 19-month-old. A very strong workmanlike B/W dog that has come a long way in terms of confidence. Still some way to go but he is shown in excellent condition with plenty of muscle and depth. He can really move, having great reach and drive. 3rd Clinton's Hawkfield Happy Feet at Oramiss.

LIMIT DOG (10 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st Wybergh's Stocksfell Chase The Ace. I don't think I have seen this 6-year-old B/W dog before. He has a deep chest, nice short coupling, stands on good feet and has good bone. He has a kind expression and won this class on his movement, powering around.

2nd Adams' Carofel Wings Of Hope JW WW23 Swiss Jr Ch. A handsome 2-year-old O/W dog that I have followed progress of since being a puppy. He isn't the finished picture yet, but he has the loveliest head leading to an elegant neck. Another short coupled dog that used his tail on the move, level with his topline, and had reach and drive.

3rd Sillince's Davigdor Flanders Field.

OPEN DOG (10 Entries, Abs: 1) What a class!

1st Martin and Martin's Sh Ch Sunhouse Banged To Rights. 3-year-old B/W dog, I just love him! He just oozes pointer to me with the best of heads, and front and rear angulation. He has good bone and lovely feet. He powered around in the class with his tail lashing level with his topline. There's nothing I would want to change about this dog. I gave him a class win as a youngster and today he did not disappoint. DCC, BOB and delighted to hear he went Group 4!

2nd Westaway's Sh Ch Teisgol Keep On Going via Penwest JW. 3-year-old Le/W dog, another that I did well as a puppy and another dog that did not disappoint me today. He is a different mould to the class winner, but you cannot deny him being a worthy champion. He is an honest dog that you could see doing a day's work with no problem. He has a lovely front with tight elbows leading to short couplings. He comes alive on the move, and I was delighted to award him the RCC.

3rd Jamieson & Macara's Sh Ch Kanix Peri Peri with Glenfinnan.

VETERAN BITCH (4 Entries, Abs: 2)

1st Chevalier's Millpoint Some Like it Hot. Just 7 years old. This B/W bitch has the kindest of eyes, deep chest, good feet, plenty of stifle & used her tail on the move. She moved well and pushed the veteran dog hard for BV, very close decision.

2nd Lake's Wild Thyme. My notes say 'she likes her food!' 7 year old Li/W who was carrying too much weight today. Having said that she still moved well and has a lovely flowing profile when stood with good angulation and topline.

MINOR PUPPY BITCH (4 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st Gerrard, Bell & Galloway's Riowood C'Mon It's Time for Carmandine. 7-month-old B/W bitch. Very feminine. Great shoulder placement, good bone and nice feet. The shortest of tails and a deep chest for her age. Pleased to award her BPIB.

 2^{nd} Oddie's Riowood Tic Tick Boom to Sharnphilly. Litter sister to 1^{st} and same remarks apply, pushed each other hard for that 1^{st} place but for me I just preferred the topline of 1^{st} on the move. 3^{rd} Millett's Laveto Tennessee Whiskey.

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PUPPY BITCH (2 Entries, Abs: 1)

1st Jenkin's Sniperay Ebony Pearl (ai). 11-month-old B/W. Everything is there but she just needs to gain confidence. She has dark eye, plenty of bone, good rear angulation and tail set.

JUNIOR BITCH (3 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st Gordon's Hawkfield Happy Times. 12-month-old O/W who scores highly in the head, with lovely pigmentation. She has lovely ears too. Great shoulders, plenty of bend of stifle and lovely feet. Once settled on the move she used her tail well.

 2^{nd} Anthony's Jilony Zelda. B/W of 16 months old. Similar remarks apply to 1^{st} but just preferred the topline of 1^{st} place when stood. Plenty of rib and heart room. I think she will have a fun future.

3rd Edmondson & Robertshaw's Crookrise Sunbeam.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (8 Entries, Abs: 1)

1st Martin and Martin's Sunhouse Black T'square One (ai) Another B/W typical of this kennel. 20 months old and litter sister to Post Graduate Dog class winner. She moved steady but true, using her neat tail. Scores highly in her depth of chest, lovely pasterns, and the prettiest of heads.

 2^{nd} Guy's Carofel If I Had Wings JW. O/W of 2 years. Very feminine, just not as happy on the move as 1^{st} place. Has dark eye, good angles fore and aft. Like her litter brother, the most elegant of necks. 3^{rd} Nelis' Freebreeze Special Effects JW.

LIMIT BITCH (13 Entries, Abs: 0). Many in this class were worthy of a card and difficult decisions had to be made.

1st Hinton, Luke & Leman's Fleurfield Black Caviar. B/W of 2 years old. I have watched this one recently as she has really been catching my attention. She has a lovely expression with a glint of mischief in her eye which came through in her behaviour at times! She is well muscled and has lovely bone, pasterns and feet. I liked her ear placement too. A neat tail and moved well with plenty of reach and drive. Pleased to award her RBCC.

2nd Rayner, Spinks & Pringle's Spinray Songbird. Same remarks apply as 1st place, but this B/W bitch of 3 years just didn't quite give as much on the move. Having said that, she still moved well to be awarded this place in a quality class.

3rd Macara & Blackburn-Bennett's Kanix Sooty at Stargang.

OPEN BITCH (6 Entries, Abs: 0)

1st Blackburn-Bennett's & Blackburn-Bennett's Kanix Skyfall. I have always admired this bitch and today she gave it her all. She's almost 2 years old, Li/W and has such a clean outline. She has a lovely head with her eye colour matching her coat, A lovely long neck with no throatiness, excellent angulation both ends, and the neatest of tails. She is in top condition and moved with real reach and drive. I could take her home. Delighted to award her the BCC.

2nd Bond's Sh CH Joneva Azelia Banks JW. A very pretty O/W of 2 years. Not quite as much front angulation as 1st place and a heavier type but she is lovely with a very pretty head. Lots of heart room, good ear placement, well-muscled and powered around the ring but I would prefer to see her moved slightly slower. 3rd Radcliffe's Sh Ch Sniperay Edge Of Glory JW.

MISS DANIELLE DUNN (MEADOWPOINT) - judge

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