

Malta Canine Society Show – Feb 2003

Show Report - Judge Mr. Steve Hall

This being my second time in Malta and I have thoroughly enjoyed myself and once again there have been some very nice dogs to go over and some hard decisions to be made, one or two dogs that don't feature in my critique due to not being placed high enough in their respective groups, but yet I feel they deserve a mention. The Saluki a very nice young dog full of quality a little apprehensive at present, but has the required grace and form to do well. The Boston Terrier, a very nice dog of excellent type, I felt he didn't give of his best on the move. Alaskan Malamute, a lovely young man with good potential if he comes on as he has, the handler needs to pay more attention to his charge on the move. The Rough Collie, a lovely merle dog, but would not let me go over him, this is a shame as you don't see that many as good as this. Rottweiler, good champion male excellent hard condition but I felt he could have had a fraction more foreleg to give him slightly better balance. Samoyeds, these two delightful 5 ½ month old puppies one won res Working puppy but his litter sister was just as good they won the best brace. The Akita, an American type and of some quality I thought she was very good on the move so free yet firm in action. The Chinese Crested, unfortunately too cold for this breed, yet quite a nice dog but could not give his best. Pekingese. A nice dog of with an excellent skull and of considerable weight with good furnishings. Pomeranian. Nice type I have done well for this kennel in the past, I thought the tail carriage spoiled an otherwise excellent performance. One of the hardest decisions was for BOB in pugs. a delightful champion dog this kennel also produced a lovely Champion bitch. The most frustrating for me was German Shorthaired Pointer, I thought he was quite a stunning dog of quality but his tail was rather longish, that did not bother me, it was the way his handler was lifting it up like a Hound breed and this spoiled his outline totally. If the handler had knelt down and pointed the tail in a line with the dogs back he could have gone a lot further, who know what may have happened? The above is by no means a criticism of any person or dog, but an insight into the why's and wherefore of why a judge does what he does.

I would like to conclude, by thanking the officers and Committee of the club for inviting me to judge one of their shows. Also I must mention my admiration for the way you the exhibitor conduct yourselves in a most sporting manner at my decisions, which I feel is most encouraging and something to be proud of, I hope not too many were disappointed.

JUNIOR HANDLING.

1st Master S Camilleri, with a well schooled Cocker spaniel, a most excellent performance both on the table and movement, on his second dog I gave him the cavalier because it was difficult for the original handler on the table, but he had no problems with this dog and that impressed me.

2nd Master D Mercieca. A very calm young man with his Whippet giving a very competent performance, I changed his charge for a Labrador which he controlled quite well as it was playing up a little, but this didn't seem to faze him too much.

TERRIER GROUP

1st BILLY, (Staffordshire Bull Terrier) Black Dog of substance, Broad head and strong muzzle with good dentition, compact bodily and well muscled rear, unfortunately I could not assess his movement due to him not being trained to walk without pulling.

WORKING GROUP.

1st BRUWEN STONEKAY (German Shepherd Dog) all male dog that was well up to size, good proportioned head that strong and masculine, well muscled ears, excellent eye, ample neck, well

angulated forequarters, correct length of foreleg, good body condition but would have liked him a fraction shorter coupled, well angulated rear quarters, presented in dry condition. Good gaiting movement.

2nd CH HELMLAKE HARUM SCARUM. (Gt Dane) a beautifully constructed harlequin dog with the right body proportions that catch your eye, in fact I awarded the reserve Challenge Certificate to his sire, I would like him a little bigger but he is bigger than his sire, which to my mind is an advancement. He was excellent on the move and I was particularly impressed with his firm topline this I feel came from his correct body proportions, unlucky to meet winner today, very worthy champion.

WORKING GROUP PUPPY.

1st ORSINS PRINCESS LEIA (Rottweiler) a most promising young lady she catches your eye for the beautifully balanced gaiting action that she produces, extremely well balanced head that give a true Rottweiler expression, well balanced body with a firm topline, good bone and feet. Pleasing quarters, my only criticism was the handler was not paying enough attention to her front assembly when stacked, he so nearly lost out for best puppy on this point, you must remember there are many good dogs compete and it is sometime not the dogs fault but the lack of concentration by the handler.

2nd CASFRA CON QUISTADOR DI VITA AT SAMANJO (Samoyed) A most beautiful young male of only 5 ½ months so sound and correct, beautiful wedged head with the best of pigment, neat ears and so attentive, excellent neck that he shown to full effect, pleased in forequarters. Good firm action that was true and very precise for one so young, overall I thought he was quite delightful.

UTILITY GROUP.

1st MICKLEOVER CHELEDON (French Bulldog) A beautiful balanced bitch of good colour, nicely proportioned head that particularly fitted with her body, strong underjaw, good tight dark eye, nice set of ear, powerful neck which she held at a good angle, compact body that was not overdone in any way, good active mover in both directions.

2nd KERRILANDS TOTAL FREEDOM (Japanese Shiba Inu) a nice red dog of good type, typical head and expression, nice tight eye and neat ears, plenty of neck ruff, good forehead, nice bone and feet, good firm ribbing, good rear quarters that propelled him around effortlessly.

UTILITY GROUP PUPPY.

1st AEDAN NICK OF TIME (Poodle (Toy)) A smart young black dog that was so compact, classic head with the darkest of eyes and sharp, ample neck, excellent bone and feet, front assembly very sound, short level backline, good rear quarters, good thick jacket, presented in tip top condition, a good active gait coupled with a good head carriage.

2nd MICKLEOVER MOON LIT STANSY (French Bulldog) nice type with a good attitude to the job in hand, very well balanced head with a good tight eye and dark, nicely upturned underjaw, compact body, short loin, nice topline, good bone and feet, active mover and very attentive.

HOUND GROUP.

1st RICHSOMES AMAZING GRACE (Basset Hound) Just 12months old and although she is so young and has a lot of maturing to do, you can see her attributes and they please, nice feminine head, deep with good length of flues, well developed occiput, excellent bone and feet, good length of back with a

good straight topline, nicely developed rear quarters that propelled her around the ring with very little effort, she seemed to just glide, in excellent condition throughout and presentation first class.

2nd CAROUSEL QUEEN VICTORIA AT CHEBEC (Whippet) a most beautiful bitch full of quality and grace, an excellent size, which I feel is so important in a whippet, very feminine skull with a very calm expression, lovely graceful neck, nice topline, I particularly like the good length of loin again so important in this breed, good front assembly which produced a good performance, to be critical I would like her to be a fraction more firmer behind, put down to the minute, and in excellent condition.

HOUND GROUP PUPPY.

1st SORRY NO NAME IN CATALOGUE (Dachshund (Standard Smooth)) a very nice type and in lovely condition, very good head with a good keen eye, nicely placed ears, proud neck, good keel and nice bone, good front assembly, nice bodily with a good length and firm back, excellent rear angulations, very good on the move in both directions, unfortunate was a little reluctant to be handled on the table, but you could see all you wanted to without touching.

2nd HILLSDOWN HURRICANE AT CHEBEC (Whippet) a rather well grown dog, of good proportions, attractively marked, all male throughout, good balanced head with a good eye and ears, good bone and feet, good length to neck with a graceful arch, good ribbing and depth, nice topline with good tail set, quite good muscled, I felt his movement left a lot to be desired, however, his handler did an excellent job.

TOY GROUP.

1st AFTERGLOW GRIMLEY FIENDISH (Pug) What a stunner, I can honestly say that is one of the nicest pugs I have ever seen, so well put together, a most lovely head with an excellent underjaw, nicely rounded in head with lovely ear placement that flattened and extended his width of skull to give him the exquisite expression of a Pug, good strong neck and so firm for one so young, the most beautiful clean bone and tight feet, first class body with an excellent topline, good rear quarters, his movement was a most striking gait with the attitude that is very difficult to ignore, he does without doubt commands your attention and keeps it throughout his performance, he did without doubt charm me into giving him Best in Show.

2nd WIDOGI ROCKET MAN (Chihuahua (Smooth Coat)) Another charmer with a most delightful head beautifully domed skull excellent eyes, I was most impressed with his ear set which gave him a delightful expression, excellent bone clean down to his good feet, nice body and topline but would have preferred it a fraction shorter to gain better balance, however, this didn't detract too much from his obvious attributes, and excellent mover in both directions, and a typical attitude to the job in hand, never stopped showing throughout.

TOY GROUP PUPPY

1st AFTERGLOW GRIMLEY FIENDISH (Pug)

2nd LITTLE GEM IN PARADISE (Yorkshire Terrier) a very nice young lady, so sweet and feminine, nicely balanced head with a good eye and well set ears, good neck that was distinct without touching, nice length of back with a good level topline, coat clearing nicely for one so young, good positive mover, very well prepared.

GUNDOG GROUP.

1st SH CH GUNALT HALLOWEEN (Weimaraner) A very strong dog of many virtues, excellent type and in very hard condition, nicely proportioned skull with a good eye and ear set, a fraction too strong in head for me, nice powerful neck and front assembly giving this far reaching gait that the handler had difficulty in keeping up with him, nice bodily condition with a good firm back, strong loin, well developed rear giving that all important drive, overall an excellent gundog but to be critical, feet need to be tighter otherwise excellent condition.

2nd SH CH ROBRRAINE SAMRAAN AT FRAMOD (Spaniel (Cocker)) a very well balanced bitch that oozes quality, a lovely balanced head with good head planes and excellent stop, clean eye, nice low set ears, ample neck, good forequarters, excellent bone and well padded feet, nicely proportioned body and the best of toplines on the move, covered in a good jacket of an attractive golden colour, prepared and presented to perfection.

GUNDOG GROUP PUPPY.

1st MORALIS CHINA DOLL (Spaniel (Cocker)) a most beautiful black bitch that has everything going for her, I feel if she retains her balance and quality she should have a bright future, very pleasing skull, low set ears of good length, ample neck, good length of body and excellent topline on the move for one so young, very true gait in both directions, prepared and presented in first class order.

2nd MOYA OF PEARLS PRIDE AT RINGLEADER (Retriever(Labrador)) a very sound young lady and handled by another very able young lady, good head that has not yet broken, quite feminine, could have slightly darker eye, good length of neck, good neat bone with good tight feet nicely padded, good bodily and nice topline, good rear angulations, good firm action in both directions.

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