

## Judges report - The Malta Canine Society May 17<sup>th</sup> 2014.

### Michael Gadsby

My first visit to Malta and most certainly not my last!! I loved the island and the friendly outgoing nature of the Maltese people...this really well run show was a pleasure to judge with many top class exhibits on offer. Frank Borg managed the show with his typical relaxed and friendly manner, he and the other Frank Borg stewarded ensuring all ran smoothly (yes, they do have two of them!...) It was super judging outdoors on a blissfully warm evening. I would like to thank all the exhibitors for accepting my decisions in a sporting manner.

The hotly contested **Hound Group** was won by a young black male afghan import from the famous Scandinavian `Gold and Copper` kennel, Gold' N Copper Diamonds for Men, owned by K.Carabott, he has style and elegance with very typical head and expression...correct top line to prominent hip bones and a fall away to a good tail set with the highly desirable doughnut ring...on the move he displays reach drive and deportment, presented and handled beautifully, finished Reserve BIS in a strong lineup. **Reserve in the Hound group** and close up, the stunning moving Basenji, Ch.Tokaji Alabama Moon, owned by J.Blundell, this UK import brags and outstanding pedigree and you can see it in the quality of this red and white boy...classic outline which he maintains on the move...just lacking a touch in body giving the afghan the edge in the final decision.

Winner of the **Hound Puppy Group** competition was a stunning black and silver smooth Saluki, K.Galea's Pedrogarcia Del Borghino, fell in love with this 4 month baby and hope he realises his super early potential....exotic chiselled head piece, gorgeous boning, so sound and light on his well-padded feet. **Reserve Best Puppy Hound** was the smart beagle puppy, A.Busuttill's Mixtwan Sophie, so typical in character and at times stubborn but in between a definite display of soundness and a correct outline....feminine yet solid and well made with excellent musculature. Another youngster with promise.

Only one exhibit in the **Junior Hound group** but this very worthy whippet owned by S.Mercieca, Ch.Absolute Mann Full Of Joy, has a classic feminine head and exquisite expression, sound and shapely and the correct size.

The outstanding orange Bracco Italiano male, Sh.Ch.Ciclone owned bt J.Galea won the **Gundog Group** with some to spare, this fully mature male has a flawless head and noble expression with super head planes, a strong frame with excellent proportions combined with ideal construction and musculature gave this boy the requirements for the flexibility and huge side gait for which the breed is renown...truly a world class exhibit. **Reserve Best Gundog** went to J.Galea's Pipeaway Colour Me Cool, a very typical orange and white pointer import from the famous `Pipeaway` kennel in the UK, very appealing in head type, well boned excellent size and proportions, good feet and an attractive side gait

**Best Gundog Puppy** went to another Bracco sired by the group winner, J.Galea's Dingli Gem Spider. This youngster is outstanding and is amazing on the move with an extraordinary display of typical profile movement. Beautifully constructed with excellent type, certainly an exciting future must await this gorgeous puppy.

**Reserve Best Gundog Puppy** to a very babyish chocolate Labrador Retriever owned by K.Mifus, Epicmagnagraecia's Soft Luna Douceur Eclats, only 4 months and giving so much away in age he nevertheless impressed for his super breed type and solid sporting body.

Pugs are really strong in Malta with super bloodlines from top kennels around the world, the winner of the **Toy Group**, J.Spiteri's Ch.Anjos Yuri, a Brazilian import from the famous Anjos kennel came from this strong breed and excelled in quality throughout, supple skin and excellent fine silky coat. this male is masculine with a super head and eye.Strong solid level back with correct tail and set-on, a powerhouse on the move. **Reserve Best Toy** the Yorkshire Terrier, J.Bagshaw's King Of Ring Of Maryon's Home, from eastern Europe where so many good ones are being bred right now, this 3 year old male is no exception and pleased enormously in head and outline...beautifully presented and so sound on the move

The pug puppy again impressed sufficiently to win the **Toy Puppy Group**. This was K&C.Galea's Par Excellence Topgun, another with a bright future....a showing fool displaying a super head and ears correct outline with sufficient leg and super carriage on the move. **Reserve Best Puppy Toy** the long coat Chihuahua owned by S.Bonett, Ta Bonett Forever Young, sound, saucy small and dainty with a correct head and ear placement, so attractive on the move.

**The Junior Toy Group** was won by C.Gili's female Yorkshire Terrier, Gudyork Venus, colour coming along nicely, excellent coat texture and a gorgeous head and expression correct for size and proportions...kept a strong level top line on the move, this really is a lovely youngster.

**Reserve Best Junior Toy** a very nice Italian Smooth Chihuahua import owned by L.Mangion, Druelia Rsier-PL, has all the essentials in a smart neat package, super head and expression... correct flared ears, sound on the move with good carriage.

**Best Puppy In Show** from a lovely line up of quality youngsters, emerged the fabulous Bracco Italiano, Dingli Gem Spider. He had the edge with his glorious movement. I was later informed his career has already gotten off to a great start with 4 BPIS at his debut weekend in central Europe. I wish him continued success.

**Reserve Best Puppy In Show** to the baby Saluki, Pedrogarcia Del Borghino who had earlier stolen my heart, giving so much away in age he still impressed with his superlative type.

**Best Veteran** from my 3 groups went to a super quality smooth Chihuahua from the highly successful `Yerone` kennel in the UK, owned by M.Plant, Yorone It'l All End In Tears, what a lovely `old man` with a solid disposition...he moved soundly around the ring like he didn't have a care in the world...super for type, his head is still so correct and full of character. **Best Veteran In Show** went to the impressively titled Int.Pol.Gr.Lux.Ch.Bogerudmyra's Pajo who I noticed afterwards had been world winner in 2006, no surprise this handsome old boy must have been a `poster boy` in his youth. This class ended my judging for the show, afterwards co-judge Jeff Luscott had the pleasure of judging an impressive line-up for BIS, highlighting the excellent quality which exists here in Malta.

*Michael Gadsby*

## *Judge*

### *Judge Report*

#### **The Malta Canine Society – May 2014 Judge Report – Jeff Luscott**

Thank you to the Malta Canine Society, Frank Borg and his committee for the superb hospitality provided to us for the weekend. It was great to revisit the island to judge again, meeting friends old and new, with for me the quality of the dogs being shown, of an improving type and my compliments to the breeders.

The show venue was outdoors and the spacious rings set up on a very flat hockey club pitch starting promptly at 5pm, the weather conditions being just right, pleasantly warm, a lovely still and balmy evening. Good for dogs, exhibitors, committee and judges alike. A **Best In Show** under lights at 10.30pm was a new one for me, but a wonderful experience with six top quality dogs to judge, three sent through from his Groups by my co judge, Mike Gadsby and the other three dogs from my Groups.

After appraising all, I felt that A.Barker's Irish Terrier, Am.G Ch. Kelly's Touch of Fleet Street was the on-form dog, giving an impressive performance, looking the part standing and on the move, the **Reserve Best In Show** was the beautifully presented Afghan, Gold' N Copper Diamonds for Men, owned by K.Carabott, well balanced standing and with that flowing action on the move.

**Best Junior in Show** was the very promising French Bulldog youngster, D.Azzopardi's A'Vigdors Caroline Reboux bred in Russia, she has the qualities, was well handled and impressed on the move, **Reserve Best Junior In Show** was a striking Whippet ,S.Mercieca's Ch. Absolute Mann Full Of Joy. Moving with the attitude and action, well-built to do the job.

I started judging with the Terrier group, not the largest but good quality in the ones I had on view. My **Terrier Group** winner and eventual BIS was the stunningly presented Irish Terrier of excellent outline and proportions, beautiful well balanced head, neck front and standing on strong feet, he is active, lively, with the substance and the graceful racy outline required. He is well built in body, has a true harsh, wiry coat and moved with the positive action front and rear. He was well handled to take the group and continued with the strong performance to take Best In Show in an outstanding line up of all group winners.

**Reserve in the Terrier Group** was the muscular, strong and powerful Bull Terrier Electra Eos Tanagros, owned by M.Cassar, with his typical long strong and deep head, well filled with a strong jaw and good sized teeth. He has the muscle tone in his quarters and a free easy action on the move. I liked his overall attitude.

**Best Puppy in Terrier Group** was the impressive Staffordshire Bull Terrier, A.Mallia's Neterex Checkmate, a young promising male with the head chest and muscle tone building well, he is handled to show his qualities and moved in unison with his handler to take the group.

**Best Junior in Terrier Group** was the square and balanced Westie, W.Grech's Bonnie Fenella the Pink Panther, with the typical head, well-built chest and body, he moved with good style to take the award.

**The Children's class** proved yet again, even at this age Malta has some new kids on the way up, aged between 4 and 10 years there were five confident handlers doing little wrong in their performance and making for a very close decision, in the end Gareth Joyce emerged as the winner, handling a whippet with confidence and accuracy, standing and on the move.

The Working Group had the most breeds and dogs, some that impressed but did not make the final two were, from an entry of 21 the Boxer, Ch Surfstone Topical Storm, the Dobermann bitch, Ch Gem Givveeton Water Lily and the Great Dane Ch

Cragarnat Rockchase Bullet, but the Winner of the **Working Group** was the Powerful, well-muscled GSD male owned by P.Farrugia, Rafaye Hakan, bred in the UK by the Summerhills, he was in fantastic condition, has the height at the withers and that desired far reaching enduring gait, he is shown in a lovely muscular tone throughout his body and pushed hard in the BIS line up.

**Reserve in the Working Group** was J.Borg's Bullmastiff, Cane Guardiano Ghost rider, a strong outgoing powerful boy with the large square skull and good under jaw, he is muscular through body, neck, top line, rear quarters, he has the bone and substance and moved with that power and sense of purpose desired in the breed.

**Best Puppy in Working Group** was D.Cassar's Siberian Husky Banelord Girl On Fire, sired by the best dog, but beating him for BOB with her type shape and balance, her movement a joy to watch with her smooth and effortless action, lots of promise here.

**Reserve in the Working Puppy Group** was a promising Great Dane youngster Kozepfoldi Heidi, owned by J.Joyce, she has the head proportions, neck, body and shape, more to come, but she's great to watch on the move, good luck for the future.

**Best Junior in the Working Group Group** was L.Mizzi's Australian Shepherd, Edenisle Heaven Can Wait, a balanced and typical girl with the head, top line and angles, she got better on the move with every circuit, will mature and develop to full potential as she grows. **Reserve Best Junior in the Working Group** was G.Mansueto's Boxer, Muffy Of Boy From Brazil, sired by the BoB winner, already following his father's head type, with the shape and balance coming through, building muscle will strengthen his overall power and action.

There was strong competition in the **Utility Group**, with the close decision going to a lively quality Boston Terrier, McLaren Alikana, owned by D&C.Sciberras, so typical in head, square skull and muzzle, well carried ear, alert expressive eye, firmly muscled body with good width of chest and moving with the grace and power needed, he was in good bloom and handled to present him at his best going close in the BIS line up.

**Reserve in the Utility Group** was the gorgeous Keeshond girl owned by V.Gatt, Ch Neradmik Late Night Love, bred in the UK by Jean Sharp Bale, with her short compact outline, attractive fox like head, well set ears, dark eyes and specs, she has the body, coat and dense ruff, she's strongly muscled and moved with a clean accurate brisk action. It was so close between these, could have given both the Group if it was possible. **Best Puppy in Utility Group** was the impressive well boned Bulldog owned by G.Buttigieg, Noble Von Tufelohhle, who won the close decision over a lovely balanced puppy bitch, in the breed and with his movement strength and attitude took all before him in the group. **Reserve in the Utility Puppy Group**, the exciting Boston Terrier girl, Clayzet Asiadeniro, owned by D&C.Sciberras, of good type, balance and attitude, went well on the move to show her action to the full and she has lots of promise for her future career.

Thank once again to all exhibitors for the sporting atmosphere in and around the ring, and I know the “Tea” went down well after in a relaxing committee fun time!! I hope you enjoy your future shows as much as I did this one, Congratulations to all.

*Jeff Luscott, Judge*