

The Malta Canine Society’s Championship Show – 2nd & 3rd April 2022.

My thanks to the society for the invitation it has been a long time coming due to Covid and other commitments but finally got here and had a very good weekend with excellent hospitality so I thank you once again. The show itself was well organised and attended with some real quality dogs on display making my job a pleasure and also difficult at times to split the decisions. Thank you the exhibitors for the sporting way you accepted the placings and the congratulations to your fellow exhibitors, that is something that at times is missing in our sport so it was a welcoming sight. Thanks especially to Frank, Frankie, Natasha & Edwin for keeping me on the right tracks through the days in the ring. Here’s to the next time.

Junior Handlers:

1st – Milena Scicluna Very confident and accomplished young lady that was attentive at all times to the judge. Took control of her dogs in a calm and discreet way even when handling a rather strong GSD and it was this that that gave her top spot on the day. She was calm and composed never getting flustered which is the mark of a good handler. Wish her well for the future.

2nd- Mariah Manicaro Another assured handler that pushed hard for top spot and surely will change places another time. In total control of her charges whilst keeping an eye on the judge as well. Moved her dogs at just the right speed for their respective breeds and made it look effortless. Well done.

3rd – Riona Manicaro This young lady has the makings of a good handler but just needs to be more aware of the judges positioning to be picky, that said she controlled her dogs in a professional way and was always in charge. Her handling was as good as the first two it was purely splitting hairs when it came to the awareness of the judge.

All three of these will do well in the future as displayed today they are confident and very capable handlers.

Terrier Group:

Best In Group: N.Scicluna’s WHWT, Mechta Nataly Shining Star. 3 year old female of good shape and size Well balanced all through. Presented to the minute in clean harsh textured jacket. Moves true from all angles. Strong head without losing her feminine appeal well made in forehead and matched in rear. Had to be on top form to beat the equally good Jack.

Reserve: J.Attard’s Jack Russell Terrier, Wildjack Bor To Be Special. Another quality exhibit that is a joy to go over. Everything is just where it should be on this 4 year old male. Super head to handle, strong but not coarse in any way. This boy was put down to the minute in every detail from coat to body toning. At one with his handler at all times.

Working Group:

Best In Group: P.Mallia’s Rottweiler, Gary Vom Hause Niveksue. What a powerhouse of a dog. At 4 years old this boy is in his prime and took some very confident handling to control his natural exuberance in the ring. Absolute delight to go over from his masculine head through to his powerful hindquarters. Well let down in chest and sprung in ribs. Holds his outline at all times whether static or on the move. I am sure ther is still more to come from him over the next couple of years. **(Res.BIS)**

Reserve: O.Manicaró’s Border Collie, Manicaró Macey Just a year old the precocious young female is destined for bigger things as she matures on from today’s showing. Well sculpted in head with a sparkle in her eyes that defies you to look away. Uses her ears well when alert. She has correct body proportions and angulation front and rear. Typical Border Collie movement head low and minimal foot lift with maximum ground coverage. Shown in the best of coats and muscle toning. A real future prospect for the breed.

Best Junior Working: K.Baldacchino Caruana’s Samoyed, Samspring The Waterman Upstanding 2 ½ year old female, full of breed type. Good head shape and size with typical Sammie “smile” that is characteristic of the breed. Well angulated in forehand with matching rear allowing the free and easy movement needed to herd the Reindeer. Super plush jacket of good texture covering a toned body. Another that has more to offer with time. **(Res.BJIS)**.

Reserve: G.Mansueto’s Boxer, Gleman Let It Rock 15 month old brindle female. Exudes breed type from her detailed head to her well angulated hindquarters. Correct mouth with strong jaw and muzzle. Good length of neck into clean well placed shoulders and straight well boned legs. Enough in ribbing for her age and size. Moves cleanly in tune with her clever handler to show just how well made she is.

Best Puppy Working: O.Manicaró’s Border Collie, Manicaró Macey See previous critique.

Reserve: Sammut & Formosa’s Bullmastiff, Moonlight Shadow Big Ali Samforyosa What a stallion of a dog this boy is. There is no doubting his sex at all. Almost a year old and displaying all the attributes of an older dog. Strong, powerful head piece without being overdone in any department. Muscular neck of good length flowing cleanly into well laid shoulders and straight legs with the best of bone and tightest of feet. Well muscled all through allowing a sure footed movement in all directions. This is another that will make the top grade for certain.

Gundog Group:

Best In Group: G.Borg’s English Setter, Sh.Ch.Fairray Go Go Girl 6 year old female in her prime but still showing a clean pair of heels to many a younger exhibit on the day. Well defined in head with pleasing eye and expression. Correct mouth with good dentition and strong jaws. Well muscled in forehand, clean shoulders and strong straight limbs supported by the best of feet. Well let down in chest and sprung in ribs. Holds her topline firm at all times standing or on the move. Covers the ground easily with hard rear driving action. Shown in clean well presented jacket.

Reserve: N.Darmanin’s Retriever (Golden), Reflexions Of Gold Cinderella Sturdy 3 ½ year old female that is strong all through yet oozes femininity. Good head to handle, mid eye colour with calm expression, strong jaws and dentition necessary for the breed. Powerful front assembly and corresponding quarters giving her a balanced shape and ability to stride out with good ground coverage. Shown in super coat condition.

Best Junior Gundog: K&S Vella’s German Short Haired Pointer, Jogurt Z Czarnego Dworu Just 14 months old this young male has a lot to offer as he grows on. He is up to size and well balanced in body. Strong all male head, clean lines and good proportions. Moderate angulation fore and aft giving him the scope to move steadily and true but would prefer a cleaner hind action at times, that said in a bigger ring and more time to get into his stride that may change.

Reserve: R.Cordina’s Labrador Retriever. Thunderstorm Hatchi 18 month old male of good breed type. Well proportioned in head with full clean dentition and strong jaws. Ample length of neck

into moderate forehand with strong well boned legs and tight feet. Just about the right amount of body covering all through. Defined in hindquarters giving him a powerful driving action on the move.

Best Puppy Gundog: K.Baldacchino Caruana’s Cocker Spaniel, Haradwater Girl On Fire Just 6 months old this young lady has the world at her feet if she carries on in her development as she is today. Already strides out and back with real energy and positivity and comes to rest standing four square. Sweetest of heads in proportion to her body. Enough spring in rib for her age. Holds her topline firm at all times. One to look out for with time and maturity.

Reserve: B.Borg’s Retriever (Golden), Olvinglay Double Seven Well made 11 month old female that took everything in her stride on the day and showed her socks off. Good head to handle being clean and well defined all over. Strong neck of good length easing into well placed shoulders and straight front. Needs a bit more spring in ribbing but this is just an age related thing and will come as she matures on. Steady and precise on the move showing good stride pattern. Well handled .

Toy Group:

Best In Group: S.Bonett’s Pomeranian, Ch. Ta Bonett Pom Terezita. What a little showgirl, rising 2 years old she is so together in all aspects. Sweetest of heads with dark expressive eyes and well set ears. Front assembly is spot on in terms of angles and toning and in complete balance with her rear assembly, allowing the jaunty brisk movement displayed on the day. Immaculately presented in coat and overall conditioning. In perfect harmony with her handler.

Reserve: O.Manicaró’s CKCS, DJ Cookie Maradeco King. Another quality exhibit, similar age to the Pom this female never put a foot wrong and surely will swap places with her many times on other days. Strong well proportioned head without being overdone in any way. Muscular well angulated forehand, strong well boned legs and good feet. Well let down in chest and sprung in rib. Holds her topline firm at all times. Moves in unison with her handler.

Best Junior Toy: D.Ellul’s Havanese, Alfredo James Pacino Just 13 months old this male exudes breed type and under his plush jacket there is a well made framework to build on as he matures. At the moment he still has his puppy jacket and it will take a while for his adult coat to be there. This is an observation not a criticism as it is only to be expected. Good head to handle, proportionate to his body and development. Very well placed shoulders and matching rear. Steady and sure on the move. Bigger and better things await this boy.

Reserve: S.Bonett’s Pomeranian, Ta Bonett Pom Potte 13 month old male of good solid breed type that again must surely be a future star from today’s showing. Well defined head lines with dark expressive eyes and well set ears. Very well angulated front and rear giving him a completely balance framework under his taut body. Displayed a sure footed movement being jaunty and true at the same time. Handled to get the best from him on the day.

Best Puppy Toy: M.Galea’s Chinese Crested. Genius Zakhar. Upstanding 11 month old male that has a look of defiance that draws you to him. Superb head shape and size, dark well set eyes with gentle expression. Strong well angulated front assembly matched to perfection in his rear. Deep well let down chest, ample spring of ribbing. Body toning to die for in comparison to his size. Owned the ring with his powerful stride and clean footfall. **(Res.BPIS)**.

Reserve: K&C.Galea’s Pug, Gabra CK Unstoppable Louie, 10 month old well constructed fawn male. Very good detailing in head with large dark eyes and neat well set ears. Strong sturdy neck flowing into clean well laid shoulders and strongly boned legs. Well ribbed up and firm in topline with muscular back. Defined in quarters giving him the power to drive hard and display the “roll”. Perfect twist in tail to complete the picture.

Hound Group:

Best In Group: A&L.Hili’s Dachshund L/h, Ch.Danadri Hurricane Golden Boot. My star of the day this red male rising 4 years old came into the ring and owned it from start to finish. His head is to die for being strong well chiselled and proportionate. His overall construction is from the top drawer being as close to the standard as possible. Deep well filled chest and prominent keel. Topline remains level thanks to his body toning. Comes into his own on the move where he covers the ground with style and consummate ease from all directions. Presented to the minute in gleaming red jacket to complete the picture. **(BIS)**.

Reserve: O.Manicaró’s Basenji, Ch. Manicaró Aaron. Another quality exhibit this 5 ½ year old male is a pleasure to go over from his chiselled head to his toned well angulated rear assembly. Well muscled in front with good shoulder placement and straight well boned limbs supported by tight feet. Well ribbed up, topline remains firm at all times. Moves with an assured stride and comes to rest standing four square.

Best Junior Hound: S.Sant’s Beagle, Suwa’s Jolly Marcie 17 month old tri female. Good head to handle, strong but in no way overdone. Well defined cheek and strong jaws. Neck of good length and muscular into moderate forehead assembly supported by well boned limbs and tight feet. Well ribbed for her age, holds her topline static or on the move thanks in part to her toned body. Covers the ground freely and true from any angle.

Reserve: E.Spagnol’s Basenji, Thomareman Bailey 16 month old male. Well made under his taut body but on the day did not live up to his construction which was a pity because he has the framework there to do well he just needs to get it together at times. Well proportioned in head with clean planes and features. Balanced angulation front and rear. Well toned in body.

Best Puppy Hound: C.Axisa’s Beagle, Mila Di Torrimpietra Sturdy solidly built female not quite a year old but so well balanced and schooled in the ring already. Strong head without losing her feminine appeal. Front construction is well angulated and muscular and this is mirrored in her hind quarters giving her the ability to stride out with positivity and precision in any direction. Deep well filled chest good spring and length of ribbing. Firm in back due to her musculature.

Utility Group:

Best In Group: V.Gatt’s Keeshond. Almazniy Istochnik Russkaya Zima Very promising female just 13 months old with the world at her feet if she carries on in her development as she is today. Super head shape and ratios, dark appealing eyes and ears set on well. Front assembly is very good for angles and muscle and is complimented by her equally good rear. All this put together meant that when she moves it is effortless and precise at all times. To complete the picture she was presented to perfection in hard clean jacket.

Reserve: S.Ebejer’s Akita, Doctor Love Centurion Gladiator What an outstanding prospect this 9 month old male is. Everything is just where it should be and knits together so well to produce the whole. Super head shape and size, complete dentition with powerful jaws. Well muscled neck of

good length flowing into well laid shoulders and the best of fronts with excellent bone and the tightest of feet. A real powerhouse on the move where he is spot on in footfall in profile and true coming and going. Would be even better in a large outdoor ring. In unison with his handler at all times.

Best Junior Utility: V.Gatt’s Keeshond. Almazniy Istochnik Russkaya Zima **(BJIS)**.

Reserve: N.Spiteri’s French Bulldog, Lonsdale Of My Sweet Moments 18 month old male of good solid breed type. Well proportioned head with plenty of detail. Short muscular neck into moderate forehead assembly. Ample bone and tight feet. Well ribbed up and solid in topline. Easy and precise on the move thanks to his well angulated and muscular rear. Shown in good condition all through.

Best Puppy Utility: S.Ebejer’s Akita, Doctor Love Centurion Gladiator **(BPIS)**.

Reserve: E.Gauci’s French Bulldog, Fun French Kingdom Ilay, 11 month old male of good breed type for size and substance. All male in head with detail and good pigment all through. Strong neck easing cleanly into moderate front construction and good well boned limbs. Well let down in chest and sprung in ribbing, holds a firm topline whether static or on the move. Steady and controlled round the ring at and speed. Well handled to get the best from him.

Best Veteran: C. Tabone’s Yorkshire Terrier, Safi Charms Wow Bijoux, 7 year old female that belies her age. Super head shape in proportion to her body. Strong well muscled all through. Front and rear angles match to allow the free and effortless movement displayed today. Put down to the minute in silky jacket with good colour.

Best Any Variety Locally Bred: E.Manicaró’s GSD, Ch.Von Der Kuncizzjoni Balko. Powerful 3 ½ year old male that takes some handling and his handler certainly had his work cut out today but made an excellent job of steering him round the ring. This is a boy that would love to be outside in a large ring where he could really show off his construction to the limit. He is well made and presented both in coat and body toning. Congratulations to his owner / handler for keeping him this way.

For all main winners below please see individual critiques above

BEST IN SHOW: A&L.Hili’s Dachshund L/h, Ch.Danadri Hurricane Golden Boot

RESERVE BEST IN SHOW: P.Mallia’s Rottweiler, Gary Vom Hause Niveksue

BEST JUNIOR IN SHOW: V.Gatt’s Keeshond. Almazniy Istochnik Russkaya Zima

RESERVE BEST JUNIOR IN SHOW: K.Baldacchino Caruana’s Samoyed, Samspring The Waterman

BEST PUPPY IN SHOW: S.Ebejer’s Akita, Doctor Love Centurion Gladiator

RESERVE BEST PUPPY IN SHOW: M.Galea’s Chinese Crested. Genius Zakhar

BEST VETERAN IN SHOW: C.Tabone’s Yorkshire Terrier, Safi Charms Wow Bijoux

BEST LOCALLY BRED: E.Manicaró’s GSD, Ch.Von Der Kuncizzjoni Balko

Richard C Kinsey