

The Malta Canine Society – September 2023 Double Championship Show
Day 1, Saturday 16th September 2023. Caroline Friend-Rees

Thank you to The Malta Canine Society for inviting me to judge at your fabulous show. The rings were the perfect size to allow each dog every chance to shine. I was blessed with an excellent steward who kept my ring in order and running perfectly both days. Without exception, temperaments were absolutely first class. I thank you all for your good sportsmanship and for a lovely entry. I was spoilt for choice in the groups with so much quality to choose from, then when it came to Best in Show and Best Puppy etc, the quality was immense. I thoroughly enjoyed my time in Malta judging your fantastic dogs and meeting you all. Thank you.

Junior Handler:

1. Milena Scicluna. Milena won this class as she handled both her charges in both a very professional way and also a very kind way. Always moving her dogs in straight lines, never getting between the dog and the judge and always getting the best out of them. Pushing her dogs forward so you saw the dogs rather than the handler. Excellent. Well done.

Utility Group:

Best: M.Aquilina's Miniature Poodle, Curly Brown-M Della Baia Blu, Lovely moving male who was so well constructed with a lovely head and expression. Good size and proportions with firm topline. Shown in excellent coat and condition.

Reserve: C&G.Camilleri's French Bulldog. SSSR Only The Lonely, Quality compact male with nice head shape and dark eye. Good neck and topline. Strong hindquarters. Lovely mover who was at one with his handler.

Utility Junior Group:

Best: M.Aquilina's Miniature Poodle, Curly Brown-M Della Baia Blu, Lovely moving male who was so well constructed with a lovely head and expression. Good size and proportions with firm topline. Shown in excellent coat and condition.

Reserve: E.Meli's Toy Poodle, Island Of Lotuses Centurion, Head of good shape and well-shaped eyes full of expression. Good neck and shoulders. Firm topline and tail carriage. Elegant and free Easy movement.

Utility Puppy Group:

Best: S.Bonett's French Bulldog. Ant-Bon AJ Lee, What an absolutely delightful young French Bulldog with a pleasing shaped head, good ear carriage and dark eye. Overall very well balanced with a nice topline and correct bone. Moving well.

Reserve: B.Borg's Japanese Shiba Inu, Damyashi Bushi, 7 month old male Japanese Shiba Inu of correct size. Good eye and expression. Good shoulders and upper arm. Firm topline, Super hindquarters and accurate movement.

Gundog Group:

Best: G.Loughborough's Labrador Retriever, Sh.Ch. Neville Open Heart, Absolutely stunning mature Labrador with a lovely outline. Beautifully balanced throughout with good length of leg. Good breadth of skull, strong clean neck and strong, well ribbed body. Excellent topline, tail set, good bone and feet. Sound and free moving. Shown in excellent coat and condition. A pleasure to also award this fabulous dog Best in Show.

Reserve: J.Galea's English Setter, Gordon Hall Yasmine, Lovely 4 year old bitch presenting a well-balanced outline with a lovely head with soft expression. Firm topline with deep brisket and well ribbed. Short well-developed loin and good tailset. Moving out well coming and going as well as fabulous profit movement.

Gundog Junior Group:

Best: C.Spiteri's Golden Retriever, Fernflower Bosko, A promising young Golden retriever dog with beautiful head shape. Clean neck and excellent front assembly. Moving with ground covering strides from the front and positive drive from the hindquarters. Shown in good coat and condition

Reserve: B.Sammut's Brittany, Tapa Di Val Grossa, Beautiful Brittany with a lovely feminine head and correct proportions. Good length of neck in to well placed shoulders and firm topline. Good leg to body height proportions and strong hindquarters.

Gundog Puppy Group:

Best: M.Tabone's Golden Retriever, Shivas Golden Agnese, What an exciting young Golden Retriever bitch with a lovely head and kind expression. Totally balanced angulation and of correct size and proportions for age.

Reserve: A.Muscat's Labrador Retriever, Pearl Di Casa Lopresti, 11 month old bitch with a beautiful feminine head of good shape and very pleasing expression. Clean, well laid shoulders. Strong chest and well ribbed. Moving out with plenty of ground covering strides.

Toy Group:

Best: C.Galea's Pug, Ch.Gabra CK Unstoppable Louie, 2 year old male with a most appealing masculine head with lovely eye and expression. Cobby and very compact with correct length of leg and deep body. Impressive on the move.

Reserve: V.Sultana's Pomeranian, Dan-Star-Kom Adel Enkanto, Very exciting young Pomeranian who took my breath away when moving around the ring. Lovely head with very neat ears and fine muzzle. Compact and well ribbed with high set and well carried tail. Shown in excellent coat and condition. Great rapport with his handler. A pleasure to award him Best Puppy in Show.

Toy Junior Group:

Best: E.Bugeja's Pomeranian, Sette Stelle Arrow, Smart typy youngster of excellent size and shape. Nicely balanced head with neat ears and good expression. Correct bone, compact body and good feet.

Reserve: N.Spiteri's Yorkshire Terrier, Camparis Noa Noa, Very pretty bitch of good breed type with medium neck into well placed shoulders and good front. Shown in good coat with firm topline and balanced angulation.

Toy Puppy Group:

Best: V.Sultana's Pomeranian, Dan-Star-Kom Adel Enkanto, Very exciting young Pomeranian who took my breath away when moving around the ring. Lovely head with very neat ears and fine muzzle. Compact and well ribbed with high set and well carried tail. Shown in excellent coat and condition. Great rapport with his handler. A pleasure to award him Best Puppy in Show.

Reserve: C.Cauchi's C.K.C.S, Gananu Shaila, Very pretty bitch of good size and shape. Clean face and beautiful expression. Enough neck and firm topline. Tail well set and carried. Using herself well on the move.

Best Veteran In Show: English Setter: Sh.Ch. Fairray Go Go Girl, Beautiful feminine girl with a good head and kind expression. Good eye shape and earset. Excellent front assembly with well placed shoulders and

good parallel front. Deep chest, well ribbed and balanced angulation. Moving with effortless ground covering strides.

Best A/V Locally Bred: Zammit & Grixti's Siberian Husky, Ch.Banelord Rag Doll, 6 year old bitch with a pretty head and almond eyes and good expression. Excellent front assembly with well placed shoulders and hindquarters balanced with front. Chest to close fitting elbows and well ribbed. Moving well with excellent reach and drive.

Best Puppy In Show: Pomeranian: Dan-Star-Kom Adel Enkanto, Very exciting young Pomeranian who took my breath away when moving around the ring. Lovely head with very neat ears and fine muzzle. Compact and well ribbed with high set and well carried tail. Shown in excellent coat and condition. Great rapport with his handler. A pleasure to award him Best Puppy in Show.

Reserve Best Puppy In Show: Golden Retriever: Shiva's Golden Agnese, What an exciting young Golden Retriever bitch with a lovely head and kind expression. Totally balanced angulation and of correct size and proportions for age.

Best Junior In Show: W.Chetcuti's Whippet, Frontrunner's The Look, Smart young bitch with a super outline. Feminine and elegant but still with strength. Excellent topline and underline, strong hindquarters with balanced angulation. An excellent sound mover.

Reserve Best Junior In Show: R.Xuereb's Bullmastiff, Mons Claudius Invincibile, Young male with a strong masculine head with good width of skull. Strong neck into well placed shoulders and firm topline. Strong compact body with good depth of chest and well ribbed.

Best In Show: Labrador Retriever: Sh.Ch. Neville Open Heart, absolutely stunning mature Labrador with a lovely outline. Beautifully balanced throughout with good length of leg. Good breadth of skull, strong clean neck and strong, well ribbed body. Excellent topline, tailset, good bone and feet. Sound and free moving. Shown in excellent coat and condition. A pleasure to also award this fabulous dog Best in Show.

Reserve Best In Show: M.Albanese's Alaskan Malamute, Int.It.Hr.Alb.Mne.Rks.Bih.Si.Ch.Astrid Doroteya, Quality bitch with excellent bone yet still feminine. Strong moderate neck into firm topline, well developed ribs and well-muscled hindquarters. Excellent angulation and good tail set and carriage. Shown in excellent coat and condition.

Caroline Friend-Rees
Judge