

Day 2 – Sunday 21st May 2023 Judge Report – Patsy Hollings

JUNIOR HANDLER. 4 very promising handlers entered the ring and it was a hard job to separate them, so it was today's performance that won through, was happy with the competency of each.

Mariah Manicaro. This young girl has a calm, attentiveness to her charge. She went stride for stride with each of the dogs she had in this ring, keeping her eye on the judges needs, yet staying at her dog, reassuring at all times. Therefore it was a team between handler and dog.

WORKING GROUP

Best: D. Grixti's Siberian Husky - Ch. Ayuka's Angel Of Distruction. A fit, agile dog. Liked him for size, neither no body nor too heavy and full. Lovely head with almond shaped eye, has chiselling and good stop, tapering to strength in muzzle and tapered lips. Proud carriage of neck through lay of shoulder, neat elbows, and balance of bone. Ribs have spring, back lever to ell placed tail with thick coat. Has dense coat on body and full bloom. Easy gait with long supple stride.

Reserve: R. Galea's Boxer - Brynhafod Sweet Pea. A junior bitch of quality, balance and typical outline. Balanced and shapely, with definition and strength in head with width to under jaw. Arch to dry neck, square in body with muscular loin and correct underline. Width behind with full muscled thigh. She has power in action holding her super shape.

WORKING JUNIOR GROUP

Best: R. Galea's Boxer - Brynhafod Sweet Pea. (See Res. Working winner above).

Reserve: R. Xuereb's Dobermann - Questo Maximus Dobgrace. Strong masculine dog. Has good proportions strong refined body and muscle with good skin and impenetrable coat. Handler really had him to task, well done.

WORKING PUPPY GROUP

Best: S. Sultana's Alaskan Malamute - Aysha Del Biagio. Gorgeous head piece, with super expression, ears set wide, erect and not too big. Grand bone and legs of good length/ Body strong and fit ,even in one so young .Good tail and carriage. Attentive to the expert handler, who really brought out this one's quality.

Reserve: R. Xuereb's Bullmastiff - Mons Claudius Invincibile. In such a young, strong breed, this youngster really showed appeal. Large clean head, super outlook, Short broad muzzle and balanced to skull. Heavy bone, legs and feet. Filled through body to strength of tail and well set. In super condition. Worked well with handler.

TERRIER GROUP

Best: J. Galea's Kerry Blue Terrier, Dandy Black & Blue At Nebulak (BIS). Quietly handled and turned out in immaculate order. A real terrier ,who kept his outline and demanded to win. His unobtrusive handler and him in prime order and went with him, never put a foot wrong.

Reserve: J. Galea's Fox Terrier (Wire) - Viola V.D. Schonen Bergen. Long , clean, feminine head with dark eye ,with the varmity expression. Length of neck short solid topline, tail bang on top. Has plenty after her tail and width of quarters. Super harsh coat ,turned out by someone who knows! Determined sound action.

TERRIER JUNIOR GROUP

Best: M. Cassar's Bull Terrier - Side Blaire Breaking Bad. Young, fit with filled head, strength through body and great personality. He had it all going on and retained his typical outline. The best is yet to come.

TERRIER PUPPY GROUP

Best: J. Attard's Jack Russell Terrier - Aretuza Calliope. Cute feminine with a sparkle in her charming head. She has body and presented in good order and harsh coat. A cheeky, charming mover, with character.

Reserve: J. Galea's Welsh Terrier - Katsumi From Michel. Type is evident and presentation is first class. A real terrier all through. Just right for body and performed with accuracy and style.

HOUND GROUP

Best: K. Galea's Saluki - Ch. Proenzaschouler Del Borghino. - 8 Years and presented in excellent body that shows shape and symmetry, still. Has a smooth, true action with deportment. Handled to advantage and presented in excellent condition and silky coat.

Reserve: K. Boross's Dachshund (Miniature Smooth Haired) - Hubertus Primus Pietro Del Soul. This Dog has a grand head with strong jaw and dry lips. Firm back of length, from long ribs and strength in loin. Good forechest and neat elbow. Clearance of leg, therefore he has ease of footfall. Just right for body and coat.

HOUND PUPPY

Best: O. Manicaro's Beagle - Manicaro Olly (BPIS). Well what a charmer this one is. Gorgeous head, clean neckline through solid body, to high set and carriage of tail. In beautiful condition and handled with calm professionalism to enhance the picture. Just lovely.

Reserve: M. Castillo's Whippet - Yoko Ono Of Gentle Mind. Shapely with firm typical outline depicting the breed. Long head, correct fine ear and well fitting eye. Clean through to strong jaw and tapered lip. Good forehand rib to cut up. Slope to croup with long tapering tail. Very smooth and shapely. Light easy gait.

Patsy Hollings - Judge

Day 2 – Sunday 21st May 2023 Judge Report – Nick Gourley

GUNDOG GROUP

Best: C. Spiteri's Retriever (Golden) - Fernflower Bosko - A most impressive Puppy and capable of competing with the very best despite being only 10 months of age. Outstanding temperament and disposition. Shown in immaculate condition from his clean dense coat to his muscle tone throughout. Presents a very balanced picture. Head broad and well proportioned. Dark eyes and big black nose with powerful muzzle. Very accurate foot fall and sound away and back. Tail carried perfectly off his back and well feathered.

Reserve: G. Borg's English Setter – Sh.Ch. Fairray Go Go Girl - An easy winner in the breed and did not put a foot wrong here in the Group. Appealed for her overall balance and size. Very elegant and beautifully presented. Loved her head and gentle expression. Skull and muzzle to balance. Long elegant neck. Deep chest and good length of rib cage. Strength to loin and level back with tail carried off and well feathered. Makes a typical outline in profile moving with freedom and accurate footfall.

GUNDOG JUNIOR GROUP

Best: R. Cordina's Retriever (Labrador) - Linjor It's An Affair - Broad skull and well-proportioned muzzle with strong jaw. Small ears set back. Typical happy expression and great temperament; never stopped wagging. Sturdy through and showing good breadth of chest. Level back, good spring of rib width to loin. Moved soundly away and back and had accurate foot fall in side gait. Short dense waterproof coat.

Reserve: D. Attard's Retriever (Golden) - Golden Aurora Seventh Heaven - Liked his head and gentle expression. Happy disposition and using tail well all the time. Head maturing well. Slight arch to neck well

angulated forequarters. Moved well in side gait showing reach in front and some drive from behind. Coat in very good condition with feathering in the right places.

GUNDOG PUPPY GROUP

Best: C. Spiteri's Retriever (Golden) - Fernflower Bosko – (See Gundog Group winner above)

Reserve: B. Sammut's Brittany Spaniel - Tapa Di Val Grossa - A beautiful Brittany very patiently handled. She is square and cobby with a typical head correctly proportioned with slightly shorter muzzle than length of skull. Expressive dark eye set juts right. Perfect size to her ears and set high and close to her head. Short back and short loin. Length of leg just a fraction longer than depth of chest. Sound on the move with typical, short stride holding her top line well.

TOY GROUP

Best: S. Bonett's Pomeranian - Ch. Ta Bonett Pom Potte (RBIS) - Impressed me with his immaculately presented coat of perfect harsh texture and his foxy expression. Dark eyes and tapered muzzle. Flat skull with ears set high and of ideal size. Short in neck, level back and short-coupled. Stands square with tail set high and carried flat over his back. Moved briskly showing his outgoing 'look at me' personality. Very sound away and back.

Reserve: C. Galea's Pug - Ch. Gabra CK Unstoppable Louie - A happy, healthy looking Pug with a large round black head and short clear fawn coat. Width all through. Short square muzzle and big nose with open nostril. Large round eyes set well apart. Small, neat ears. Slight arch to neck and super square and cobby in body with tight curl. Moved with typical slight roll behind. Parallel away and back.

TOY JUNIOR GROUP

Best: N. Spiteri's Yorkshire Terrier - Camparis Noa Noa (Res BJIS) - An exciting prospect still to come into full adult coat but none-the-less a beautiful Yorkshire Terrier and only just out of puppy. Loved her head and expression. Alert yet feminine. Slight crest to her elegant neck into well laid shoulders. Top line level stood and held on the move. Tail set high and carried neatly in a curve above her top line. Steel blue coat of silky texture and cold to touch. Rich tans developing in all the right place. Moved with drive and has a super outline in side gait. Presented immaculately.

Reserve: T. Bonnici's Pomeranian - Jurgen Cissi (Bello) - Just out of puppy and coat developing well for age but not quite the desired harsh texture required yet. Of an ideal size for a male. Foxy expression and small, neat ears set high. Dainty limbs and neat feet. High set tail carried over his back. Moved well away and back but not quite as swiftly as one would like.

TOY PUPPY GROUP

Best: L. Mifsud Mizzi's Lowchen, Gwaihir's Theia Of Eden - A really adorable baby making her debut and only just arrived in the country...but what a fabulous prospect. She is going to be such a typical overall shape with a beautiful head of perfect proportions and typical expression. Intelligent and alert and taking it all in. Nice and compact in body and tail set high carried perfectly over her back with a plume. Coat of silky texture and already in typical lion clip. A little hesitant on the move but so obviously sound. Hand with great patience in the breed and here in the Group put in a winning performance (of which I am sure there will be many more).

Reserve: N. Spiteri's Yorkshire Terrier, Scandelicious Ria For Sweet Sensation - Another exciting prospect and like her kennel mate presented to perfection. Not quite the confidence yet of her older friend but still has a beautiful head with ears of correct size. Moved swiftly holding her top line and with tail set high and carried perfectly. Coat developing well for her age and already of cold silky feel.

UTILITY GROUP

Best: H. Azzopardi's Poodle (Standard) - Ch. Nord Forest Mustang - Handsome white dog with such ring presence and clipped beautifully. Stands majestically with fabulous head carriage. Long, lean, well chiselled muzzle with strength to jaw. Almond eye and ears set low. Black nose and good pigmentation. Short and strong in back and tail set and carried straight. Moved with reach in front and drive from behind. Profuse close white coat.

Reserve: S. Ebejer's Akita - Doctor Love Centurion Gladiator - An impressive young dog of good bone and starting to reach maturity in both body and coat.. Super head and alert expression with small dark eyes and width to his skull and strength to his muzzle. Small thick ears set high and used at all times. Well-proportioned body being juts longer than tall. Tail in full bloom, set high and carried over back in half curl. Shows great power on the move and handled perfectly to control. Moves sound away and back with accurate footfall in side gait.

UTILITY JUNIOR GROUP

Best: C&G. Camilleri's French Bulldog - SSSR Only The Lonely - Exciting young French Bulldog who is only a few months out of puppy and has a fabulous temperament. Of an ideal size and sturdy and compact. Loved his square head and expression with his high set bat like ears and his dark eyes. Large nose with open nostril and unexaggerated nose roll. Cobby body with short thick legs and shortest tail. Moved parallel away and back. Short fine coat.

UTILITY PUPPY GROUP

Best: K. Mifsud's Chow Chow - Milo - Very promising Chow Chow puppy whose coat is developing well and already showing thick, course texture and density to create the lion like impression. Very typical expression with dark eye and small thick ears. Large black nose and width to muzzle. Blue tongue. Broad chest, short coupled in body. Tail set high and carried well over his back. Moves with desired short stride and sound away and back.

Reserve: C.Cauchi's French Bulldog - Gananu Lord Cooper - A very typical French Bulldog puppy who is destined for a bright future I am sure. Super head and expression. Ears set high and of ideal size with rounded tips. Lovely straight front and low hocks. Short and cobby. Good width to chest. Moved well away and back. Very confident and clearly 'happy at work'.

Best AV Locally Bred O. Manicaro's Basenji - Ch. Manicaro Aaron - A worthy Champion and looking fabulous for 7 years. Very typical head and expression with slight forehead wrinkle and ears set high and slightly forward. Compact in body with tight tail curl. Really impressive in side gait with effortless reach and drive with head carried proudly.

Best Veteran In Show: K. Galea's Saluki – Ch. Proenzaschouler Del Borghino (see above)

Best Puppy In Show: Beagle - Manicaro Olly (see above)

Reserve Best Puppy In Show: Retriever (Golden) - Fernflower Bosko (see above)

Best Junior In Show: Boxer - Brynhafod Sweet Pea - This bitch caught my eye in the Breed on Day 1 and I loved her overall breed type but she was not quite as confident as she was today which cost her a place; especially against the impressive Junior Dog who was BJIS yesterday. But today she had such great ring presence and was a joy to go over. Beautiful head piece and in hard muscular condition. Good bone, neat feet and pristine condition. Top line level with slight slope from withers to croup. Moves with drive and so sound away and back.

Reserve Best Junior In Show: Yorkshire Terrier - Camparis Noa Noa (see above)

Best In Show: Kerry Blue Terrier - Dandy Black & Blue Niko At Kebulak (see above)

Reserve Best In Show: Pomeranian - Ch. Ta Bonett Pom Potte (see above)

Nick Gourley - Judge