

The Malta Canine Society - September 2022 Double Evening Championship Shows

Day 1 – Saturday 17th September 2022

Firstly may I congratulate the organisers for staging two excellent evening shows as the entire evenings went smoothly and were well organised. I was a little surprised to find so much good quality in most of the breeds and in particular Boxers, Pomeranians and Salukis. It was a real pleasure and privilege to judge for The Malta Canine Society. My co-judge Martin Sanders and I were well looked after, with excellent hospitality for which I thank them.

Utility Group: F.Cicala's German Spitz (Klein), PENNY DEI CONTI DI ACQUAVINTA - Confident, short coupled and oozing quality. Broad skull with moderate defined stop. Good shaped eye with intelligent expression. Moderately short neck and forechest. Well boned and ribbed body. Correct cat like feet. Brisk mover and sound in both directions.

Reserve: H.Azzopardi's Standard Poodle, Ch. NORD FOREST MUSTANG - He excelled on the move with his feet hardly touching the ground. Presented a very balanced outline with no exaggerations. Head of good proportions and well chiselled foreface. Good shaped and coloured eye. Well laid shoulders and return of upper arm. Well sprung and rounded ribs. Well developed hindquarters.

Utility Puppy Group: C.Camilleri's French Bulldog, SSSR ONLY THE LONELY He is well balanced and excelled on the move with balanced free strides. Attractive masculine head with intelligent expression. Correct shaped eye and ear set. Strong bone with compact feet. Well rounded body with muscular loin. Well let down hocks. Must have a bright future.

Reserve: M.Aquilina's Miniature Poodle, NURMAH BAILA MORENA - She presented a balanced outline. Appealing, feminine expression with well shaped almond eyes. Well defined chin. Strong neck flowing into the withers. Good straight front with tight fitting elbows. Deep in brisket for one so young. Moved with style and positivity.

Gundog Group: J.Cross' Cocker Spaniel, CROSSTREE RUBY - Although only 9 months she looked and moved as if she had been around for a bit longer. She has been blessed with a shiney black coat which has fine texture. Liked her height to length proportions giving her balance. Sweet, feminine head with good wide nostrils. Nice dark eye with merry expression. Super body properties. Covered the ground with ease and style.

Reserve: R.Cordina's Labrador, THUNDERSTORM HATCHI - Two year dog who has many breed qualities. He excels on the move which is effortless. Strong body and well muscled. Pleasing head with intelligent expression. Strong neck flowing into the withers. Good lay of shoulder. Strong bone and pasterns. Well Developed hindquarters

Gundog Junior Group: N.Borg's English Setter, FAIRRAY GRANDIOSITY - 14 month male who is just about right for his age. Loved his head and expression. Good layback of shoulder. Strong, level topline. Deep in brisket. A bit erratic on the move but he will settle down with age and maturity.

Reserve: R.Genius' Golden Retriever, GOLDENDORADO DIEGO - Well balanced throughout with no exaggerations. Pleasing head with intelligent expression. Strong neck flowing into the withers. Deep in brisket with well sprung ribs. Good width of thigh and bend of stifle. Quite a low tail set. Moved with purpose with good drive from behind.

Gundog Puppy Group: J.Cross' Cocker Spaniel, CROSSTREE RUBY (Gundog Group Winner)

Reserve: L.Shoemake's Labrador, SANTY DISCOVERY DARK MILO - Nice overall quality. Attractive masculine head with kind eye. Good overall body properties with no exaggerations. Nice forehand construction. Good front with tight fitting elbows. Carried himself well on the move and using his otter tail to advantage.

Toy Group: S.Bonett's Pomeranian, Ch. TA BONETT POM POTTE (Res BIS) - Quality from nose to tail Foxy in outline with good oval eye and ear set. Short neck with well laid back shoulders. Good straight front with tight fitting elbows. Moderate rear angulation. Good head and tail.

Reserve: A.Ancona's Chihuahua Smooth: ROCCO STEEL - Another one with good head and tail carriage. Moved freely and briskly. Great attitude and showmanship. Balanced and attentive to handler. Pleasing head and expression. Correct ear set. Slightly arched neck flowing into withers and level topline. Straight forelegs. Good forward reach and powerful drive from the rear.

Toy Junior Group: S.Bonett's Pomeranian, TA BONETT POM EL CHAPO (Res. BJIS) Excellent overall breed type with lots to like about him. Pleasing masculine head with nothing over done. In lovely coat and condition. Firm body properties. Correct positive movement. A star in the making.

Reserve: N.Spiteri's Yorkshire Terrier, BIG BOY CHARM STRIBNE PRANI - Despite his name he is of good size but not big. Compact body with moderate spring of rib. Presented in lovely condition. Good bone and round feet His movement was positive and correct.

Toy Puppy Group: T.Bonnici's Pomeranian, JURGEN CISSI Another Pomeranian out of the top drawer. So well put together with no exaggerations. He has most of the attributes and quality. Masculine head without any sign of coarseness. Well laid shoulders and return of upper arm. Strong Topline. Moderate spring of rib. Moved out with purpose and confidence.

Reserve: C.Cauchí's CKCS, GANANU JADE - She has an absolute gorgeous feminine head with sweet expression. She is so well balanced. Good dark eyes. Well set ears. Short in couplings with good spring of rib. Prefer to see wider thigh and more bend of stifle. Free flowing front action but would prefer to see more drive from the year.

Best Veteran In Show: K.Galea's Saluki, Ch. PEDROGARCIA DEL BORGHINO - Seven year old bitch who is in the prime of her life. So well put together and balanced. Dignified expression. Attractive feminine head with good dark eye. Well muscled neck flowing into the withers. Good lay of shoulder. Deep in brisket. Effortless mover.

Best A/V Locally Bred In Show: C.Tabone's Yorkshire Terrier, SAFI CHARMS WOW BIJOUX - 7 year old bitch who is showing little sign of aging. Balanced head with intelligent expression. Compact body. Good width of thigh and moderate bend of stifle. Movement difficult to assess.

Best Puppy In Show: J.Cross' Cocker Spaniel, CROSSTREE RUBY (see critique for Gundog Group Winner))

Reserve BPIS: W.Grech's WHWT, ZENITH OF ROCKWELL PIXEL - I liked this young dog a lot but wish that handler would move him slightly quicker as I felt he could have showed more animation on the move. Excellent overall breed type. Very appealing masculine head with good pigmentation. Strong well muscled body. Good straight front with tight fitting elbows. Strong well let down hocks.

Best Junior In Show: Sammut & Formosa's Bullmastiff, MOONLIGHT BULLSHADOW BIG ALI SAMFORYOSA Quality from nose to tail and totally sound. Excellent breed type and he possesses all the attributes. Masculine head without showing any sign of coarseness. So powerful in appearance. Good dark expressive eyes. Deep in brisket and strong over the loin. Well developed hindquarters. Balanced mover.

Reserve BJIS: S.Bonett's Pomeranian, TA BONETT POM EL CHAPO Two year old male. Loved his expression and attitude. So well balanced. Covered the ground with ease and style. Good angles at both ends. So well presented and handled

Best In Show: V.Ambrosone's Jack Russell, Alb.Ch. AIKIWA OMEGA (BIS) Loved his balanced outline with no exaggerations. Sturdy compact body. Attractive masculine head with strong muzzle and well defined stop. Good pigmentation. Keen expression coming from his dark eyes. Correct ear set. Well laid shoulders with good return of upper arm. Oval chest with well sprung ribs. Has sufficient width of thigh and bend of stifle. High set tail. Strong rear action with excellent forward reach.

Reserve BIS: S.Bonett's Pomeranian, Ch. TA BONETT POM POTTE - He is such a showman and simply oozes quality from nose to tail and everything in between. He possesses so many breed characteristics. Such a foxy outline. Attractive masculine head with intelligent expression. Good straight forelegs with adequate bone. Sturdy, short body. Moderate rear angulation. His movement was a pleasure to witness.

Jim Richardson (Judge)