

The Malta Canine Society's February 2020 Championship Show: Main winners, Judge report:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Malta Canine Society for their invite and hospitality shown to me. I found the quality of the dogs and handlers too of been very high with some quality exhibits for me to judge.

Junior Handlers: well done to all the young handlers

1st: Milena Scicluna this young lady pulled out all the stops here to win a very good class of young handlers, she particulaly moved her charges at the correct pace and was sympathetic ecouraging the dogs to move with her

2nd: Riona Manicaro very close runner up to the winner and similar attributes as above, both very good handlers and have a bright future.

3rd: Mariah Manicaro

Utility Group:

1. V.Gatt's Keeshond: Samkees Touched By An Angel. (**Best In Show**) male of just over a year, this male didn't put a foot wrong on either day, attractive masculine head without coarseness, good dark eyes with spectacle, well set ears and correct mouth, shown and presented to perfection excellent texture to coat, super lay of shoulder and compact body, moved and showed exceptionally well, definitely has a bright future.
2. C.D'Amato's Shiba Inu: Ch. Queen Victoria Incipita Vita really lovely Shiba of correct size and shape, beautiful head and expression, ear placement and neck, moved soundly in good coat

Utility Junior Group:

1. V.Gatt's Keeshond: Samkees Touched By An Angel. (**Best Junior In Show**) as above
2. K.Caruana's Shiba Inu: Cristal. ideal shape and size, well bodied, sound on the move, in good coat and condition

Utility Puppy Group:

1. D.Attard's Boston Terrier: Incredible Deko Winning Angel. (**Best Puppy In Show**) 10 month old well marked male, broad head with dark expressive eyes and well placed ears, well made front and rear, sound movement, demanded attention.

Hound Group:

1. O.Manicaro's Basenji: Ch. Manicaro Aaron. Red coloured dog who demanded your attention, well wrinkled head and masculine without coarseness very alert expression, arched neck, well laid shoulders, short level back and muscular hindquarters, he moved with purpose and covered the ground well.
2. Hili & Rathmell's Basset Hound: Ch. Int.Pt.Ch. Apple Jack Dos Sete Moinhos exquisite head and expression, superb neck and shoulders leading to good front and feet, level topline and well ribbed back to strong loin. Good tailset and carriage with super hindquarters. Covered the ground well

Hound Junior Group:

1. O.Manicaro's Beagle: Alotorius Old Glory Another Beauty (**Reserve Best Junior In Show**) super stallion hound, balanced throughout, super head and expression, very sound on the move with correct tail action, this young hound has a very bright future presented and shown well
2. J.Saliba's Pharaoh Hound: Tal-Giarda Kim. Typey medium sized male, moderate in all respects, good forehand, adequate depth of brisket and moderate tuck up, relaxed and free moving.

Hound Puppy Group:

1. C.Cauchi's Beagle: Strawberry Field Forever. Lovely make and shape, feminine head with gentle expression, lovely dark eye, enough neck and well laid shoulder, well bodied and moved soundly
2. A.Hili's Basset Hound: Carbon Copy Quorum. Pleasing head and eye on this young male, super neck and shoulder. Would prefer more weight to finish the picture, moved well for his age.

Working Group:

1. D.Grixti's Siberian Husky: Ch.Banelord Girl On Fire what a super moving bitch, both in profile and up and down. correct expression, strong neck leading into well placed shoulders, chest above her elbow, well ribbed back, super quarters well bodied and shown in good condition.
2. E.Manicaró's GSD: Von Der Kuncizzjoni Balkn, beautiful head and expression with attitude. Correct substance, well boned, with super lay of shoulder and topline, correct hind angulation and tail. On the move he strode out in typical gait showing soundness and working ability

Working Junior Group:

1. E.Manicaró's GSD: Von Der Kuncizzjoni Balko as above
2. D.Grixti's Siberian Husky: Ayuka's Angel Of Distruction, masculine head without coarseness, correct stop well placed eyes and ears, shoulder placement ok, super body with firm top line, moved well

Working Puppy Group:

1. R.Bonello's Boxer: Highcrest Mystique Killer Queen (**Reserve Best Puppy In Show**) super headed brindle bitch who has a lot to give the breed. Feminine shaped head with clean dark expressive eyes and a good mouth, long clean neck into well placed shoulders, lovely forechest and firm top line for her age, moved well when settled
2. E.Ambrogio's Siberian HuskyImai Stars Sachim's Dream Ellie. Very promising pup with balance, feminine head shape and expression, well laid shoulders, super rear, and excellent mover.

Terrier Group:

1. N.Scicluna's WHWT: Mechta Nataly Shining Star, as her name suggests she is a star, completely alert and on her toes, pleasing head and expression with correct bite, hard crisp coat presented very well. Correct amount of weight, very good mover who has more to give.
2. M.Cassar's Bull Terrier: Unique Passion Casper/ this dog I found to be of correct size, super bite and expression, well boned with correct body and muscle, not at one with his handler here today which was a shame as felt he could have been placed higher

Terrier Puppy Group:

1. N.Scicluna's WHWT: Mechta Nataly Shining Star, as above

Toy Group:

1. C.Galea's Pug: Ch. Montes Auri Treisy Fan-Fan Favori, super fawn bitch with black mask and nice short coat. Feminine head with large dark eyes, good width to muzzle, well defined wrinkles and button ears giving an overall appearance of a good pug head. Good bone and ribcage correct crest of neck and shoulders. Sound on the move showed for her handler non stop. Pressed hard for top honours
2. D.Mifsud's Pekingese: Klerkshof Cracker Jack beautiful head piece, flat skull and dark round eyes giving a pleasing expression with large open nostrils. Ears well set with correct feathering. Well boned, presented well and moved effortlessly with correct rolling gate.

Toy Junior Group:

1. J.Bagshaw’s Yorkshire Terrier: Bluestaryorky Pandora, feminine bitch excellently turned out with dark eyes, good length of muzzle and correct bite, flat skull and correct ears well set. Long silky coat with correct silky texture, moved well with level top line.
2. S.Micallef’s Papillon: Sweet Candy, smart bitch who was presented well and in good coat for her age. Feminine head with correct eye, rounded skull, correct ear placement, well placed shoulders and hare feet. Moved freely

Toy Puppy Group:

1. S.Tabone Vella’s Pomeranian: Thai Silk Weather Forecast, orange with the most wonderful expression with excellent head proportions, short and compact body, correct tilt set and moved with attitude, showed like a pro
2. E.Meli’s Maltese: Diamond Gemini Shalimar, masculine head with dark eye and a pleasing expression, correct bite. Coat has the correct texture just needs to finish, moved well with a happy disposition.

Gundog Group:

1. J.Galea’s Pointer: Pipeaway Silent Echo. (**Reserve Best In Show**), B/W male who should have been denied his place in the final run off. Masculine head with correct dish to foreface, not over done in any way. Flowing arched neck leading to well placed shoulders, correct depth of brisket, super bone and correct feet, well arched rib and strong loin, well muscled hindquarters with correct turn of stifle moved freely and with drive, happy disposition
2. B.Borg’s Golden Retriever: Sh.Ch. Olvinglay Venus Amor, this bitch took my eye as soon as she came in, feminine head with correct pigmentation, pleasing neck leading to well placed shoulders, super balanced body proportions, well muscled second thigh, correct feet, moved well round the ring with super tail action, presented very well, hard decision between her and the Pointer.

Gundog Junior Group:

1. V.Cuschieri’s Spanish Water Dog: San Fernando Di Isca Augusta, well built solid all through with good outline, excellent head proportions, clean neck and well placed shoulders, correct topline and weight, in good coat and moved well.
2. P.P Camilleri’s Labrador Retriever: B.B King Di Casa Lopresti, black with a pleasing expression and head shape. Clean neck and shoulders lovely bone and super feet. Well bodied and with correct double coat, moved very well with a long stride on side gait.

Gundog Puppy Group:

1. J.Cross’ Cocker Spaniel: Glentree Heritage, Red shown in super condition, masculine head correct proportions and tight dark eye. Excellent neck and shoulder placement, super bone and very good feet. Held his top line on the move and strode out true fore and aft with nicely angulated hindquarters. Presented a balanced picture from every angle.
2. J.Galea’s Bracco Italiano: Berta, powerful young bitch who had a happy disposition, well-muscled with a deep chest, narrow and angular head with correct nose. Muscular neck and square outline with correct turn of stifle. Very impressive on the side gait.

Judge: Richard Stafford JP