

The Malta Canine Society – February 2022 Championship Show - Judge’s Report

It was a great pleasure to be judging again in Malta and there was quite a good entry overall with so many real quality dogs to judge.

The show was held in a conference centre with a super sized, carpetted ring and good room for the exhibitors who were most sporting.

During the show, the Committee made a presentation of a beautiful piece of Murano glass to Frank Borg who was celebrating his 30th year as Secretary and his 39th year on the Club’s Committee. This was received to much applause from the ringside.

Lots of beautiful rosettes were on offer and so much product from generous sponsors.

Best in show could have gone to any of the six group winners, I was spoilt for choice top quality dogs and in reality it was the same for Juniors and puppies, an exciting evening for the final.

JUNIOR HANDLERS:

1st: Mariah Manicaro, faced with some difficulty, this young lady never gave up and made a really super job.

2nd: Riona Manicaro, again worked hard to keep all the dogs legs where they needed to be, kept her eyes on the dog.

3rd: Milena Scicluna, this young lady was unlucky to be up against the others today, all of them could easily change places.

Just the 3 budding handlers but they each worked hard even changing dogs part way through.

UTILITY GROUP

Best In Group: V.Gatt’s Keeshond, Almazniy Istochnik Russkaya Zima - Super sound, brisk moving Keeshond puppy of 11 months, she was all shades of grey with good harness markings, beautiful head and expression, ivy leaf shaped ears, good bone and feet. Such quality even having some harshness to the coat and a black tip to the tail..

Reserve Best In Group: M.Aquilina’s Miniature Poodle, Love Me-Do Della Baia Blue - A black bitch, still in junior, outstanding , lengthy, refined head with correct, dark, well shaped eye and good leathers. So well put together, demonstrated in her movement, well presented, only needs a little more body. Sound and free on the move.

Best Junior: M.Aquilina’s Miniature Poodle, Love Me-Do Della Baia Blue (Res Best Junior In Show)

Reserve Best Junior: N.Spiteri’s French Bulldog, Lonsdale Of My Sweet Moments. Such an attractive head and expression with good width muzzle and correct jaw. Strong body with correct topline, super bone. Sound and stylish.

Best Puppy: V.Gatt’s Keeshond, Almazniy Istochnik Russkaya Zima (Reserve Best Puppy In Show)

Reserve Best Puppy: S.Ebejer’s Akita, Doctor Love Centurion Gladiator. Markings brilliant and well defined, he is of good size and well boned. Great head for one so young with good cheeks. Striking in outline and so stylish.

HOUND GROUP

Best In Group: K.Galea’s Saluki, Gabra CK Alexander Helios. What a dog he is, striking standing and so fluid on the move, it looks effortless! Outstanding in head and eye, correct neck and shoulder producing a sound front. Correct bend of stifle and well muscled, sound rear. Close up to the Lab for best in show.

Reserve Best In Group: Camilleri/Chetcuti/Caruana’s Whippet, Notable All My Loving. Young light brindle whippet whose markings complimented the elegance of line, quite excelled both standing and moving. Such an excellent lengthy, lean head, beautiful eye. So well put together, excellent croup.

Best Junior: S.Sant’s Beagle, Suwa’s Jolly Marcie. Typical hound markings, correct in outline with a neck long enough to scent. Correct in rib and topline with a well carried tail. Loved the head with no weakness in muzzle and a very pleasant expression. Well laid shoulder, super feet. Sound and free.

Reserve Best Junior: E.Spagnol’s Basenji, Thomareman Bailey - Very stylish Basenji of good size and proportions, Precise coming and going and well put together. Nice muscle

Best Puppy: Camilleri/Chetcuti/Caruana’s Whippet, Notable All My Loving (Best Puppy In Show)

Reserve Best Puppy: L.Micallef’s Beagle, Isoria Harly Davidson This beagle is only 7 months and i thought quite outstanding for that age but just giving away a bit much at this age. Wonderful head, neck and topline and so sound. Must be one to watch.

WORKING GROUP

Best In Group: Grixti & Zammit’s Siberian Husky, Ch. Banelord Rag Doll Super quality red Sibe, scored in head balance, eye and expression, Correct shoulder with just enough return of upper arm, good bone and feet. Correct rib, perfect for body and muscle. A delight on the move just a bit tired when it came to best in show.

Reserve Best In Group: G.Mansueto’s Boxer, Gleman Let It Rock - Excelled in outline. outstanding head with good broad muzzle and correct upturn. Beautiful boxer eyes. Well arched neck. A delight to go over and hard muscled. All comes together on the move – Best Junior In Show.

Best Junior: G.Mansueto’s Boxer, Gleman Let It Rock (Best Junior In Show)

Reserve Best Junior: Tanti & Bonello’s Rottweiler, Dobby Vom Hause Niveksue - Good size Rottweiler and well balanced. Strong head without being coarse, correct eye. Deep, well sprung rib, hard body, correct rear, nothing exxagerated and very sound.

Best Puppy: E.Ambrogio’s Canadian Eskimo Dog, Sicario Karkopekleri Qimmiq - 7 months and showing so much promise, good neck, level topline wide thick muscled thighs, head is a delight, impressed with sound movement, strong bone and correct feet.

Reserve Best Puppy: K.Baldacchino Caruana’s Samoyed, Samspring The Water Man - He has a super coat for a baby, handsome head well placed ears and lovely expression. Good length neck, strong back well carried tail.

TERRIER GROUP

Best In Group: J.Attard’s Jack Russell Terrier, Wildjack Bor To Be Special - What a treasure, fabulous expression, flat skull, strong muzzle with dark, almond eyes. A delight to go over in really firm body, stylish and sound.

Reserve Best In Group: N.Scicluna’s West Highland White Terrier, Mechta Nataly Shining Star - Could take a group, such a grand head and expression, just enough muzzle. Beautiful eye. Correct shoulder, bone and feet. Very stylish in excellent coat.

Best Junior: J.Attard’s Jack Russell Terrier, Tal-Kraws Nairobi - Very attractive head, lovely eye. good rib, satisfying to go over, just needs time.

Best Puppy: K.Tanti’s Jack Russell Terrier, Hogwarts Spirit Bard Beedle For Hause Niveksue - This puppy shows so much promise, lovely head and eye, good angles, sound when settled.

GUNDOG GROUP

Best In Group: G.Loughborough’s Labrador Retriever, Sh.Ch. Nevill Open Heart - An exciting Labrador, he has substance without excess, nice amount of daylight underneath. Hard muscular condition. Text book conformation, so sound and free, strong bone, super feet. Most handsome head, used his ears well. Kind eye. In good coat. Looks as though he could work for a day. Loved him. – Best In Show.

Reserve Best In Group: G.Borg’s English Setter, Fairray Go Go Girl - This orange belton bitch has the most divine head and expression, super, lengthy neck glorious topline and is so well constructed throughout, a thrill to go over and to see on the move, just beautiful

Best Junior: G.Loughborough’s Labrador Retriever, Loughlab Cora K&G - Only a youngster but having similar virtues to the group winner, who incidentally happens to be her sire, solid but without excess body looks, glorious head and expression, well placed and angulated front, strong rear. Sound both ways.

Reserve Best Junior: C.Spiteri’s Golden Retriever, Golden Aurora Star Of Destiny - Sound and stylish golden with a kind expression from the combination of skull, muzzle, ear and eyes. Super bone and feet together with good front and rear angles.

Best Puppy: K.Baldacchino Caruana’s Cocker Spaniel, Haradwater Girl On Fire - The expression on this baby is so delightful, dark, bright eyes set in a blue roan coat, she is quite divine. Loved her angulation and when settled signs of her soundness, correct balance overall good topline and tailset. Hopefully a great future.

Reserve Best Puppy: B.Borg’s Golden Retriever, Olvinglay Double Seven - Eyecatching golden, with a most attractive outline. Well balanced overall. Very attractive head and eye, quite steady on the move. Nicely muscled.

TOY GROUP

Best In Group: S.Bonett’s Pomeranian, Bonett Pom Tereita - Shaded sable Pomeranian who stands four square so correctly built and so precise on the move, cant put a foot wrong. Lovely flat skull. Super ears, foxy head and oval eyes give the most beautiful expression. Dead right for size, perfect for bone on tight cat feet. In full coat looked a picture – Reserve Best In Show.

Reserve Best In Group: S.Micallef’s Papillon, Xerac De Apple - Loved the head, eye and ears, really well made to give the butterfly picture. Just about right for size. Pleasing to go over and quite sound on the move.

Best Junior: C.Pullicino’s Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Alla Russo Claude Galien - Lovely blenheim whose large, round, dark eyes shallow stop and correct muzzle produce a really gentle expression, just about right for size overall, enough neck and good topline, nice angles, super feet. In really good coat.

Reserve Best Junior: S.Bonett’s Pomeranian, Ta Bonett Pom Potte - Really short coupled orange pomeranian, Super head and expression, Good feet and enough bone. Very stylish.

Best Puppy: E.Meli’s Pomeranian, Sha-Ma-Ni Star Chin Chin - Captivating Pomeranian of only 4 months and when she did move was so precise. Loved her head and eye, a pleasure to go over and in good coat. One for the future

Reserve Best Puppy: C.Galea’s Pug, Gabra CK Unstoppable Louie - Sound and quite handsome Pug , short and cobby body, good broad chest with well made and boned front. Well made, not too heavy in the rear , very stylish on the move.

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BEST VETERAN IN SHOW: K.Galea’s Saluki, Ch.Ro.Ch. Pedrogarcia Del Borghino

BEST A/V LOCALLY BRED: C.Cilia’s Boxer, Ch.Cilemm Touch In Time Fernando

Keith Nathan

Judge