

## Malta Canine Society June 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Championship Shows

I would like to thank the Malta Canine Society for the kind invitation to judge in their beautiful country, and for the hospitality afforded to both my husband and myself. It was interesting to discover that judging would begin at 5pm and wonderful to then spend the day at the pool in a top class hotel relaxing and enjoying the sunshine.

There were two back to back evening shows held in a superb outdoor venue on Saturday and Sunday, both sponsored by Eukanuba. The sponsor's logo was evident with superb banners and lovely ring dividers in the sponsor's recognisable bright pink, bringing much colour to the event. My co-judge was the well-respected top all-rounder Jeff Horswell and both shows were split between us with Jeff doing BIS on Saturday and myself on the Sunday.

The society had a number of top class Junior Handlers and they impressed very much. I found the dogs in general to be mixed with some lacking true breed type but I was very pleased with my overall winners. On the Saturday my main winners were: **Working Group** winners were the Siberian Husky male From Here To Eternity Della Farha. I liked this boy for his overall type and construction. He was beautifully put together for size and substance with a pleasing quality headpiece and correct eye, ear, muzzle and mouth with excellent bite. He had a good neck and shoulder, excellent body shape, lovely rib cage and beautiful rear quarters. He was put down in excellent coat and condition, handled well and moved around the ring with style of a high order with his feet touching the spot perfectly, thus producing a positive steady gait and retaining his topline as he did so. Reserve went to the Border Collie bitch, Allymoon Fortune And Rocksy Glory. This girl was in tip top coat and condition with a quality head and construction to match. She was nicely balanced and so well proportioned. She had a very gentle expression from her kind dark eyes, neat ears and good mouth with correct dentition and bite. She had a good front and rear assembly and was really well put together. She was put down in tip top coat and condition, showed and handled beautifully and moved out well with a sure footed easy action retaining her topline as she did so.

**Working Puppy Group** went to the Boxer bitch, Berwynfa Stare If You Dare. Smart nicely handled girl with pleasing head properties. Dark almond shaped eyes, clean cheeks, dry skull, correctly placed ears that were used to advantage and good muzzle and mouth. Her front assembly was pleasing as was her rear quarters and she came together nicely with a well covered shapely frame and pleasing topline and tail set. She was handled and shown beautifully and she moved steadily with a sure footed gait. Reserve was awarded to the GSD male, Grixal Goldberg. This boy had a good typical head piece with super eye and expression, well used ears and correct mouth and bite. I liked his lay of shoulder and long sloping blades, nicely boned straight front legs down to firm pasterns and good feet. He had a super shapely well covered frame with correct length to height ratio, well defined withers & slightly sloping topline & nicely curving croup. He had pleasing rear quarters with correct angulation and well-muscled thighs. He showed well and the handler moved him around the ring at a nice pace showing a good reach in front, positive thrust from behind and his feet touched the spot from the side.

**Working Junior Group** winners were the Siberian Husky male, From Here To Eternity Della Farha. Repeat. Border Collie bitch, Allymoon Fortune And Rocksy Glory. Repeat

**Terrier Group** winners were the Scottish Terrier bitch Giselle Eri-Escot. This girl was smart and well-handled to show off her obvious virtues. She had a beautiful long head piece with dark expressive eyes, neat well placed pointed ears, a strong deep foreface and good mouth. She had a good forehead with long sloping shoulders, well boned front legs, firm pasterns and good feet. She had a super shapely body with deep chest and well-rounded ribs, firm level topline and pleasingly powerful rear quarters. This girl was on her toes the whole time and show showed and moved very well. **Reserve** was awarded to the Wire Fox Terrier bitch Mastini Di Rihana I Am Bonnie. Repeat

**Terrier Puppy Group** winners were the Scottish Terrier bitch Giselle Eri-Escot. Repeat. Reserve was awarded to the Wire Fox Terrier bitch Mastini Di Rihana I Am Bonnie. Repeat. **Terrier Junior Group** winner were the Am Staff bitch Gang-Staff Cross Punch Ku. Repeat.

**Utility Group** winners were the Keeshond bitch Samkees Purrsonal Love. Repeat, and she then went on to win Best In Show. **Reserve** to her was the beautiful Boston Terrier bitch Deniro Ice Queen. This girl was smart and showy with a beautiful well defined head piece showing firmly erect ears that she used to advantage, well placed dark expressive eyes, clean cheeks, good stop, wide deep muzzle and good mouth and chin. She had a good forehand assembly with well laid back shoulders and strong straight front legs down to firm pasterns and neat well knuckled feet. Her body was shapely and well covered and she showed a pleasing profile outline and she showed well and moved steadily with a surefooted pleasing gait.

**Utility Puppy Group** winners were Samkees Purrsonal Love. Repeat. **Reserve** went to the French Bulldog male Iron Country Santino. This boy had a pleasing head that was nicely balanced to body with correctly placed bat ears, dark expressive eyes, wide deep muzzle and good mouth. His neck was strong and let into clean well laid shoulders and he had strong straight front legs down to firm pasterns and small, neat well knuckled feet. This boy has a well covered shapely frame with big ribs and neat cut up. He showed a sharp profile outline with gentle roach and low set on of tail. He handled nicely and moved out well with a sure footed steady gait moving his width in front and with just a slight rolling gate from behind.

**Utility Junior Group** winner was awarded to the French Bulldog Novizala Black Bull.Repeat

On the Sunday, I was very pleased with my overall winners especially my Best In Show Keeshond and Reserve Best In Show Labrador, both puppies. The Keeshond, Samkees Purrsonal Love, was all of a piece and so very well put together being short & compact with the most beautiful foxy head piece, obliquely set dark expressive eyes with well defined spectacles, small pointed ears and perfect mouth and dentition. This youngster had a nicely arched neck and good forehand assembly with well laid back shoulders and good bone. She had a super shapely body, fabulous profile outline, pleasing rear quarters and beautiful balance. She stood on good legs and feet and was in tip top coat and condition with super ruff and excellent tail set and carriage. She showed well and moved easily and freely with a clean brisk gait. The Reserve BIS was awarded to the black Labrador puppy, 10 Sono Leggenda. This boy was beautifully balanced with clean cut head, broad skull, expressive eyes, neat ears and good mouth with correct dentition and bite. He had a good front assembly with strong boned front legs down to firm pasterns and well arched compact feet. His body was shapely and well covered, in good muscular condition with well sprung ribs, pleasing topline and well developed rear quarters. He had a super temperament and excellent tail set and carriage and he showed and moved very well. The other dogs in the BIS line up were the Maltese male, Chuligano Chick Magnet, a super little dog with pleasing head, dark expressive eyes, well placed ears and good muzzle and mouth. He was nicely put together with good forehand assembly, shapely body, good rear quarters and pleasing outline. He was in good muscular condition, stood on good legs and feet and he showed and moved very well. Afghan Hound male Ch Gold 'n' Coppers Diamonds for Men. This boy was impressive and full of glamour with beautifully balanced head piece showing expressive dark eyes, well placed ears, super muzzle and excellent mouth and dentition. He had a good neck that was let into shoulders that sat correctly back and he had nice bone & feet. His body was shapely and so well put together with a good topline and sharp profile outline. He was in excellent coat & condition and showed and moved beautifully. The Irish Terrier male Ch, Am GCh Ch Kells Touch Of Fleet, impressed me greatly as he was all of a piece and beautifully handled to show off his obvious virtues.

He had a pleasing head that was nicely balanced to body with good dark expressive eyes, neat well placed ears, good muzzle and excellent mouth with correct bite and dentition. He was compact and well made with good front and rear quarters. He had a shapely muscular body with firm backline and excellent profile outline. He was in good coat and condition and showed and moved well. The Boxer male Ch Surfstone Tropical Storm was of good type with nice head showing dark expressive eyes, neat well placed ears that he used to advantage, clean cheeks, good width & depth of muzzle with correct under-jaw. He had a good forehand assembly with strong boned straight front legs down to firm pasterns and neat well knuckled feet. I liked his body shape, well sprung ribs and pleasing rear quarters. He was shown to advantage and moved very well. Other winners were Best Junior In Show and that went to the French Bulldog male, Novizala Black Bull, with a pleasing head showing beautiful dark expressive eyes, correctly placed bat ears, clean cheeks, good width & depth of muzzle and good mouth. He had a nice neck, good shoulders, good bone and feet. His body was a tad long coupled but shapely and well covered with pleasing roach and sharp profile outline and he showed nicely and moved steadily. Reserve Best Junior In Show was awarded to the American Staffordshire bitch, Gang-Staff Cross Punch Ku, eye catching girl with lots of attitude and pleasing head properties. She was super stylish with so much about her and she came together so well. I liked her front and rear quarters, super shapely well covered frame, excellent topline and tailset and beautiful profile outline. She showed well and moved beautifully. Best Puppy In Show went to the BIS & RBIS and the other contenders were the Chihuahua male, George The Victorious Orlando Hof, and what a well-made dainty little dog he was with well-rounded apple domed skull, short pointy muzzle, large expressive eyes and good ears & mouth. He had a nice neck, well laid back shoulders, good body shape and pleasing rear quarters and he handled well and moved steadily. The Whippet bitch, Dew Princess Diana, was a very pretty baby with lovely head & skull being long and lean with bright oval eyes that were full of expression, correctly set small rose ears, clean cut jaws and good mouth. This baby had a good forehand assembly, super shapely body and pleasing rear; good tailset and carriage and she stood on good legs and feet. She showed beautifully and moved steadily for age. The Wire Fox Terrier bitch Mastini Di Rihana I Am Bonnie. This girl was very well put together with a good head and pleasing muzzle to skull ratio. She had dark expressive eyes that were well filled below, small neat ears and good mouth with correct dentition and bite. She had a clean muscular neck that was let into long sloping shoulders, short shapely body with deep chest, good rib cage and level topline. She was in good coat and condition and she showed nicely and moved well. The Boxer male Eros Del Laya Von Bullen, was smart and showy with a good typical head piece with beautiful dark eyes, well placed ears that he used to advantage to enhance his expression when asked, clean cheeks, correct muzzle to skull ratio, good width & depth of muzzle and good mouth & chin. He had a good neck, well laid shoulder, shapely well covered frame and good rear quarters and he showed and moved well. Many thanks to the exhibitors for accepting my decisions, and in deed my co-judges decisions, in such a sporting way. Wonderful show, wonderful weather, wonderful people, what more could one want.

**Margaret Wildman.** Judge