

## Malta CS Championship show 16-17<sup>th</sup> February 2019

A special thanks must go to the secretary Mr. Frank Borg for looking after me over the weekend and putting on a very well-run friendly show. It was a real pleasure to judge here and evaluating a complete new set of dogs. The overall quality I felt was very good and my principle winners were good representations of their breed and would win in the UK. Handlers were polite and sporting which is nice to see and all the dogs were in good condition. A number of young handlers who really do a good job which is a bright future for everyone in my opinion. Will be keen to see how some of these dogs mature and progress.

### Utility Group:

*Best:* Ciappara's - Spirited Away Nero Shakotan For Taxiro, was a very smart Min Schnauzer, only a puppy but already well collected, I liked his length of skull, neat ears with clean cheeks. He had good legs with moderate balanced angles, holding his topline on the move, has a harsh jacket, furnishings just need to improve, overall a promising youngster with good breed type, happy to award him adult and puppy group and later **Best Puppy In Show**.

*Reserve:* Pellegrini's- Jewels Of Patrial Lord M, a precious young French bulldog who commanded attention in the ring, a detailed balanced head piece with a good width of muzzle and chin, wide nostrils, Cobby body with well sprung ribs, moderate topline, muscled rear. Lots to like.

### Utility Junior Group:

*Best:* Pellegrini's- Jewels Of Patrial Lord M  
*Reserve:* Formosa's Akita: Harley Tavo Svajone.

### Utility Puppy Group:

*Best:* Ciappara's Spirited Away Nero Shakotan For Taxiro  
*Reserve:* Mallia's Boston Terrier, A- Zibos Bernini Carrara Bianca,  
Nicely proportioned bitch, square head with flat cheeks, neat erect ears. Good topline with slightly arched loin, steady sound graceful mover.

### Hound Group

*Best In Group:* Hili&Rathmell's- Apple JackDos Sete Moinhos, Basset Hound, this bitch caught my eye the second she entered the ring with her style, balance, presence but above all her type. I have judged bassets all over the world and in my opinion this bitch is right up there in the top drawer. She has correct head planes with a kind dark eye and expression, lovely long low set ears, just the right amount of skin without making her overdone. Super neck and shoulders, her ribbing extends well back and at all times she holds a firm backline. Tail is thick and carried correctly, low set strong hocks, where she excels is on the move, she is in tip top condition and her handler shows her perfectly, she has that look at me attitude which is rarely seen in this breed without it being exaggerated and had no hesitation in awarding her **Best In Show**.

*Reserve Best In Group:* Manicaro's Beagle- Manicaro Emily, beagle, a compact well-proportioned puppy, feminine head with a soft expression, has a good muzzle. Correct round bone with excellent feet, firm topline with a super tail of the correct length which is rarely seen these days. Short loin, well angled rear, needs to tighten in front but overall I liked her profile and carriage on the move, correct size and good breed type.  
**Reserve Best Junior In Show.**

### Hound Junior Group:

*Best:* Manicaro's Beagle- Manicaro Emily  
*Reserve:* Carabott's Afghan Hound, Pretty Bay Empire Strikes Back. Eycatching youngster with a lovely style and carriage of high order. Long lean head with expressive eye, has strength of underjaw, muscular neck with a defined topline and pin bones, big feet, he needs to drop into his frame but with age that will come, lots to like.

### **Hound Puppy Group:**

*Best:* Hili's - Danadri Hurricane Golden Boot, Dach, long haired. Conical head piece, dark oval eye, arched neck flowing into well laid shoulders with legs nicely under body, firm topline with good length of rib, places his feet well, moves a little too fast with handler but when slowed down paints a lovely picture, liked his proportions. Bright future ahead. **Reserve BPIS**

*Reserve:* Zammit & Mifsud's- Jolly Time Summer Wind at Topsfield, Basset Hound, pleasing youngster, still needs to tighten and develop throughout but has type with good balance all through. Domed skull, prominent occiput, long leathers, good skin, bone, ribs and feet, lovely temperament.

### **Working Group**

*Best:* Farrugia's- Ch Rivendell Male The Return Of The Prodigy, Alaskan Malamute, Heavy boned masculine dog, broad skull, tight lips, dark almond eyes set obliquely, neat ears set well apart. Correct proportions throughout with a gentle slope to his topline which he holds on the move, tail carried correctly. Powerful mover in lovely coat and condition. Later on awarded **Reserve Best In Show**.

*Reserve:* Cilia's Boxer- Cilemm Touch In Time Fernando, Squarely build dog with good bone and substance without being overdone. Masculine head. A little strong in cheek, defined stop, nose well turned up with open nostrils, has good width of muzzle and not overdone in lip. Elegant neck with a firm backline, tight feet, powerful rear, positive mover, nice type.

### **Working Junior Group:**

*Best:* Formosa's Bullmastiff, Ardhub Ooh La La, Powerful well balanced bitch, large head with moderate wrinkle, defined stop with dark eyes, ears well placed. Compact body with deep and wide chest, short thick tail, moved with power and precision.

*Reserve:* Cilia's Boxer- Cilemm Touch In Time Fernando

### **Working Puppy Group:**

*Best:* Cordina's Siberian Husky, Good Golly Miss Molly Legend Of The Spirit, eye catching youngster with a lovely balance and outline, high set neat ears, almond obliquely set eyes. Muzzle of good length. Strong chest for age, needs to drop in the rear slightly, tail carried in line of back with moderate angles front and back. Covers the ground truly.

*Reserve:* Cardona's- Pustynna Bryza, Cardigan Corgi, Real baby who enjoyed her day out. Low set body, sturdy, foxy head piece with slightly rounded erect ears, good pigment, holds topline well, brush like tail carried well. Brisk active mover.

### **Terrier Group**

*Best:* Bonnici's Bull Terrier- Evergreen Mithgard, Strongly built muscular dog, masculine egg shaped head, dark triangular eyes, well filled under eye, small stiff ears. Well sprung ribs, short back with muscled loins, I liked his jaunty care free attitude coupled with his sound parallel movement.

*Reserve:* Scicluna's WHWT,- Ch Rain Harbour Ruffo, Compact dog in super condition in body and coat, dark eye, slightly domed skull with neat pointed ears, moderate neck, ideally like neater elbows, holds a firm topline, short thick tail carried well.

### **Terrier Junior Group**

*Best:* Bonnici's Bull Terrier- Evergreen Mithgard

### **Toy Group**

*Best:* Galea's PugA- Ch Gabra Ck Dendrum,

This dog caught my eye the second he came in, he has such attitude and presence to him that makes you look at him, a detailed head piece without exaggeration in wrinkle, lovely expression, cobby body with broad chest, level topline, he moves with precision and when stops he always stands fore square. In super condition for a veteran, clear winner in this group for me.

*Reserve:* Bonett's Pomeranian, Ch. Jivenchy La Peregina Iz Vestiandii, Compact foxy headed bitch, small ears, moderate stop, arched neck with a level topline, tail of good length and high set, fine boned with neat feet, sound springy movement with a good coat texture.

**Toy Junior Group:**

*Best:* Galea’s Pug, Montes Auri Treisy Fan-Fan Favori. From same kennel as group winner and has many of the same attributes, lovely dark expressive eyes, real attitude and swagger. Cobby body with good ribbing, high set tight tail, one for the future. **Best Junior In Show.**

*Reserve:* Micallef’s- Really Classy De Apple, Papillon, Typey dog with rounded skull, defined stop, ears well placed. Level topline, slightly longer than tall in shape with a high set tail, fine bone with elegant movement in super condition

**Toy Puppy Group:**

*Best:* Galea’s Pug, Deandra Maltese Joe, Outgoing cobby and well-proportioned youngster, very promising all through with his neat ears, square and wide muzzle/jaw, bright round expressive eyes. Ribbing extending well back with a high set tight tail. Super true movement with a slight roll in the rear, nice type.

*Reserve:* Drago’s Smooth Coat Chihuahua, Microschihuas Bacardi, this youngster has a bright future for sure, everything in the right place, compact body, apple head with large expressive eyes, sound from all angles and attitude in abundance, unfortunately he wasn’t up for cooperating with his handler and did everything he could to throw it away, I still felt him worthy of BOB over some other nice exhibits and group2. Super type and in the right hands with some schooling he will do very well

**Gundog Group**

*Best:* Busuttill’s Pointer- Chesterhope Lady Lagertha, Loved this bitch for her balance, type and symmetrical outline, not the finished article yet but she looks like the breed should with her short tail whipping tail, graceful lines and slightly sloping topline, lovely condition throughout and will only improve with age.

*Reserve:* Borg’s Golden Retriever,- Sh Ch Olvinglay Venus Amor, eye catching balanced dog broad skull with dark eyes and nice expression, deep chest with a firm topline and tail carried level at all times. Powerful mover with a good stride to him. Has real showmanship to him.

**Gundog Junior Group:**

*Best:* Busuttill’s Pointer- Chesterhope Lady Lagertha

*Reserve:* Aquilina’s ESS, Sieger’s Madly Yours. Well-proportioned dog, still raw in body but shape is there. Broad skull with ears well set, slight brow with almond shaped eye. Arched loin with low set tail, angular rear and low set hocks. Easy free mover from all angles, just needs time to mature. Nice type.

**Gundog Puppy Group:**

*Best:* Calascione’s Brittany, Orson Welles Della Piave Antica, I liked this energetic spaniel, a chiseled head, slightly rounded, parallel head planes, large nose, deep chest, level back, slightly rounded croup with tail set high, lively even movement, holds his shape at all times..

*Reserve:* Louborough’s Labrador, Loughlab Am Maverich-Labrador, Strongly built but not overdone puppy, broad skull, ears set well back, well sprung ribs, short loin, holds his topline well, dense short coat, has a good rear, short thick tail, nice type all through.

**Gavin Robertson**  
**Judge**

