

CRITIQUE - SOUTHERN COUNTIES CANINE ASSOCIATION

Judge: Miss B A Johnson

My grateful thanks to the committee of Southern Counties for their invitation to judge one of my favourite breeds at this prestigious show. The weather was perfect & the ring allowed the dogs to be moved to advantage. The depth of quality especially in Limit & Open bitch was fantastic & whereas it is true to say that my top winners are all closely related, in my opinion they represented the type of dog I was looking for – well balanced, short backed, standing over a lot of ground with sound, ground covering movement. Thank you to all exhibitors for your entry & I thoroughly enjoyed my day with this lovely breed.

Puppy Dog (1). **1 Delaney's Redmires Ticket To The Stars**, 11 months old. Well balanced with clean head. Well laid back shoulder leading through to correct topline. Good depth of brisket & well ribbed back. Strongly made hindquarters. Excellent bone & feet. Moved out well.

Junior Dog (1). **1 Jones' Barleyarch Dubarry**, I thought this young dog absolutely stunning. He has fantastic balance & great presence. Excellent head shape with a very noble expression. He excels in his forehand construction & has the correct depth & width of brisket. His topline is strong & he is well ribbed back. He is well muscled with the correct bend of stifle. Excellent bone & feet. On the move he strode out soundly & well with an excellent open side gait & true fore & aft. Although his best is yet to come & he lacked the maturity of the older dogs I felt that his breed type & construction were enough to warrant him the **CC**.

Yearling Dog (1). **1 Adams' Barleyarch Ariat**, very well balanced with typical head. Slightly upright in shoulder which gives him the appearance of being slightly longer cast. Correct depth of brisket. Excels in hindquarters. Good bone & feet. Sound, ground covering movement.

Graduate Dog (2) **1 Jones' Barleyarch Dubarry; 2 Pitman's Pitwit Noble Opal**, larger in size & longer cast than my winner. Pleasing head with good lay of shoulder. I would prefer a little more length of upper arm. Excellent bone & feet. Steady movement, I would have liked a little more drive from the rear.

Post Graduate Dog (2). **1 Bennett's Barleyarch Firefly**, I was extremely taken with this dog. The first thing you notice is his excellent balance & typical breed outline. Clean, aristocratic head with correct earset. Strong neck leading to good layback of shoulder. His chest is of the correct width & depth. Well ribbed back. Strong topline & hindquarters. Powerful movement. Very well handled. I see that he is a full brother to the CC winner (their dam being one of my all time favourites) & he pushed him all the way to the wire. **RCC; 2 Trow & Jowsey's Winterwell Mr Hobbs**, well balanced with good head shape. Slightly upright in shoulder & wider in chest than I would ideally prefer. Strong hindquarters. Sound movement.

Limit Dog (8,2). **1 Smith & Reardon's Winterwell Foul Play**, well balanced all through. Pleasing head – cheeks could be a little flatter. Good layback of shoulder & correct depth of brisket. Well ribbed back. Strong, well muscled hindquarters with excellent bone & feet. Sound, ground covering movement won him this class; **2 Warrington & Schooling's Stairfoot Serpentine at Zakova**, excellent overall balance portraying a typical breed outline. Good head & expression. Strong neck leading through to good layback of shoulder. Correct depth of chest & strong topline. Excellent hindquarters. Just not quite the rear drive on the move as the winner; **3 Whiting's Ranger Two Rodale**.

Open Dog (6). **1 Harris' Am Ch & Sh Ch Vjk-Myst Goes Like The Wind of Barleyarch**, there is a great deal to like about this dog & I can see exactly why he has done so well. Well balanced with clean head. Excels in his forehand construction & has the correct depth & width of brisket. Strong topline leading through to powerful hindquarters. Excellent bone & feet. Ground covering movement. In the challenge I just preferred the outline on the stack of the Junior & PG winners – however he is a very worthy titleholder; **2 Graham's Sh Ch Winterwell Jelly Belly with Nyliram**, another quality dog displaying good overall balance. Excellent head. Not quite the forehand construction of the winner. Correct depth of brisket. Strong topline & well muscled hindquarters. Moved out well; **3 Lisle's Sh Ch Barleyarch Rolex**.

Veteran Dog or Bitch (2). **1 Cotton's Winterwell Miss Tified**, excellent balance. Very feminine head with soft expression. Excels in her forehand construction. Correct depth of brisket & well ribbed back. Correctly bent stifles. Moved well. **BV; 2 Gardiner's Kilnrae Barley Sugar**, another quality bitch with good overall balance. Excellent head shape. Not quite the forehand construction of the winner. Well ribbed back & strong hindquarters. Moved soundly.

Good Citizen Dog or Bitch (2). **1 Drysdale's Drysike Fleur De Lis**, good overall balance. Typical head & expression. Well laid shoulder. I would like a fraction more length of upper arm. Correct through ribcage to hindquarters. Moved out well; **2 Gardiner's Malmelsa Flirty Fleuri**, smaller than winner but still has excellent outline. Very feminine head. Correct topline & ribcage. Well made hindquarters. Not giving her best on the move, I would have liked to see her on a longer stride.

Minor Puppy Bitch (3). **1 Joy's Pitwit The Best Surprise at Mannlicher**, really fell for this very feminine, typical puppy. Beautifully balanced with the best of heads. Excels in her forehand construction with correct topline & ribcage. Well bent stifles. Moved well to win **BP; 2 Pudney's Pitwit Winter Glow**, litter sister to winner & very similar. Excellent head shape. Not quite the forehand construction. Good through ribcage & hindquarters. Moved out well; **3 Pitman's Pitwit Festive Time at Westard**.

Puppy Bitch (7). **1 Trow's Winterwell Inca Trail**, well balanced with very pleasing head & expression. Excellent layback of shoulder with correct depth of brisket. Well ribbed back. Strongly made hindquarters. Moved well; **2 Pudney's Pitwit Winter Glow; 3 Mellor & Heath's Winterwell Inca Gold to Evagrove**.

Junior Bitch (3,1). **1 Drysdale's Drysika Fast Track**, I thought this young bitch was absolutely cracking & she came very close to top honours in the challenge. Excellent outline – no mistaking what breed she is. Very typical head & expression. Good layback of shoulder with deep brisket & correct ribcage. Strong topline & well muscled hindquarters. Lovely movement on a loose lead – at one with her handler. I will watch her with interest; **2 Angus' Soellis Silly Tilly**, taller & longer cast than my winner. Pleasing head. Not the forehand construction of my winner. Good bone & feet. Moved freely.

Yearling Bitch (2,1). **1 Angus' Soellis Silly Tilly**.

Graduate Bitch (4). **1 Edwards' Kacela Seet Imani in Jadenco**, well balanced all through with good head & expression. Well laid shoulder with correct depth of brisket. Strong topline with well shaped hindquarters. Moved soundly; **2 Smith's Indijazz Young Love at Abbeyaire**, longer cast than my winner. Good head & expression. Correct shoulder. A little light through the loin. Well made hindquarters. Moved steadily; **3 Gardiner's Malmelsa Flirty Fleuri**.

Post Graduate Bitch (2,1). **1 Salter's Kavacanne A Sprite**, a little longer cast than my ideal. Pleasing head & expression. Good layback of shoulder. Would prefer more length of upper arm & more depth of brisket. Well made hindquarters. Moved freely.

Limit Bitch (7,2). This class was pure quality with my first three being litter sisters – & from the same dam as my DCC & RDCC winners. **1 Elrington's Barleyarch Beetle at Tequesta**, a really cracking bitch with super outline on the stack. Excellent head & expression. Scores in her forehand construction & depth of brisket. Correct topline & tailset. Strong, well muscled hindquarters. Shown & handled to advantage – moving on a loose lead displaying an excellent open side gait. Pushed all the way for top honours & it was incredibly close between her, the Junior bitch & the eventual top winners. All really quality bitches who were a joy to judge; **2 Heath's Barleyarch Ladybird at Pinseeker**, very close up to the winner & I had to nitpick to determine the first three placings. Excellent outline with typical head & expression. Good forehand construction with deep brisket & correct ribcage. Well made hindquarters with excellent bone & feet. Just not quite the driving movement of the winner but she pushed very hard; **3 Desombre's Barleyarch Springtail at Braneath**, completed a trio of top draw bitches.

Open Bitch (5). **1 Harris' Sh Ch Barleyarch Peanut**, I awarded her the RCC as a youngster 2 years ago & she is now the finished article. For me she ticks all the boxes. Excellent overall balance with the correct shape on the stack – short backed standing over a lot of ground. Her head is copybook, clean neck into well laid shoulder. Correct width and depth of brisket. Well ribbed back with strong topline & well muscled hindquarters. Movement true fore & aft with good open side gait. In a strong challenge she had the edge on maturity, & this had to be a factor in the final decision. I sincerely congratulate her owner/breeder who for many years has produced some stunning GSPs. To produce litters with the amount of CC quality stock that comes from this kennel cannot just be luck alone! **CC, BOB & G3; 2 Brown's Barleyarch Tigernut at Graygees**, litter sister to CC winner & another straight out of the top draw. Excellent head & expression. Excels in forehand construction with correct depth of brisket. Strong hindquarters. Just slightly longer cast than winner which was the deciding factor between the two. Moved freely on a long stride. **RCC; 3 Hammond, Cooke, Mould & Seasham's Indian Sunset over Koolwaters**.