

HITCHIN, 15/10/16

I thoroughly enjoyed my day judging at this very well run show. Many thanks to the committee for inviting me & to my very efficient stewards. I was delighted with my entries across all four breeds & the support shown on ringside was really well received. Well done to all of my winners who went onto achieve great things in the group & thank you to everyone who entered!

CATALAN SHEEPDOGS – J (3,2a) 1 Hansford & Donnelly's Le Magicien d'Oz du Clos

Millette at Peregós, 9 month old, top sized, well coated fawn male who commanded attention on first appearance. Strong, well sized head with decent breadth through his backskull but would prefer him a touch shorter in foreface. Correct black mouth pigment. Lovely eye shape & shade. Good sized ears. Short neck onto well laid shoulders, a little steep in upper arm. Needs forechest to develop & strengthen in front pasterns. Ribs are well sprung but needs to deepen for balance which will come with time. Firm topline at all times with a gentle fallaway over the croup & good tailset. Ideal hind angulation with double boned rear dew claws. Very sound going away but slightly lose coming. Ground covering profile movement with correct low head carriage. Nicely handled! BP, thrilled to see him take

PG1, congratulations;

2 Sheldon's Sumila Nuba, 14 month old, correct sized, grey female who had left her best jacket at home! A little too compact in outline, she would benefit from a little more length in back to balance out her proportions. Well proportioned head, good eye shape & shade with correct earset. Possesses the correct mouth pigment. A little upright in shoulder but has a well developed forechest. Correct body depth to length ratio. Needs more hind angulation but has the correct double, boned rear dew claws. A little steep in croup. Somewhat restricted right through on the move, a touch wide coming & close going. Would benefit from more ring training.

PG (3) 1 Sheldon's Sumila Elish, 2 year old, correct sized, grey female in excellent coat. Had the compactness & medium size I was looking for while retaining her correct length to height proportions. Lovely head proportions with excellent eye shape & colour. Correct mouth pigment. Well sized & set ears. Short neck, well laid shoulders but slightly steep in upper arm. Absolutely correct body depth to leg length proportions. Well developed brisket, short loin. Firm topline with gently sloping croup. Nice hind angles with correct double boned rear dew claws. True both ways on the move when settled with a different runner. Really typical head carriage on the move, lovely temperament;

2 Bland's Kiandra Little Maggie, 18 month old, top sized, fawn female. A striking bitch on first appearance with an age typical coat. Well sized head with good breath to back skull but would prefer a shorter foreface. Darkest of eyes of good shape. She is going through a slightly rangy stage under her coat but will improve with maturity. She has very balanced angulation & has very good length to height proportions. Firm topline. Correct double boned rear dew claws. A little close right through on the move with a spacious profile action, would prefer slightly lower head carriage. Preferred 1's maturity & finish at this stage. One to watch for the future!

O (4) 1 Spicer's Hollybeck Purple Lace for Gosderiina, 2½ year old, fawn female. An extremely balanced, medium sized bitch in very good coat! Really liked her proportions all through. Beautifully proportioned head with correct, truncated pyramid shaped muzzle. Correct mouth pigment. Dark eyes of good shape. Well set & sized ears. Short neck onto well laid shoulders with correct upper arm. Well developed forechest. Good spring of rib, firm topline. Correct croup angle & tailset. Nice hind angles with correct double boned dew claws. In excellent coat of correct texture. Correct coming & going with an economical, spacious profile action & such a typical low head carriage. Handler worked really hard today with this strong minded bitch. A pleasure to award her BOB & delighted to watch her take G2;

2 Fieldsend's, Xanthos de Pastors Blo at Starwell, 19 month old, sable male. The youngest in the class but of great quality, correct size & excels in breed type. On first glance he impressed with his excellent proportions. Absolutely correct head in every aspect. Short neck, well laid shoulders, a touch steep in upper arm. Needs to body up with age. Firm topline, short loin. Correct croup angle & tailset. Very good hind angulation with correct double boned rear dew claws. Correct coming but needs to firm up just a touch behind on the move. Lovely profile movement with correct head carriage. Coat is starting to come back of correct texture. An

exciting prospect with maturity, an easy RBOB!

GSD – J (9,3) 1 Corr's Harco's Axi, 6 month old, b/g female, at her first show. Medium size, medium strength of good proportions. Moderate outline, of good type. Well proportioned head, strong yet feminine expression with firm ears. Correct bite & full dentition. Good lay of shoulder, slightly short in upper arm. Would benefit from a touch more wither height. Well boned legs with nice feet & pasterns. A touch deep in brisket compared to leg length. Firm back, short loin. A little heavy on her underline. Enough hind angulation. Short/steep croup with good tailset. A little lose coming & correct going. Steady profile action but needed more drive from the rear;

2 Wilson's Clynalwin's Nukon, 7 month old, b/g male. Well sized & strong for age. A little rangy at present but typical of a young male. Liked his shape in profile both stood & on the move. Well proportioned head of good strength with firm ears. Correct bite & dentition. Nice lay of shoulder, slightly short in upper arm but well angled. Needs to develop in forechest & brisket for balance but lovely wither height. Firm back, short loin & correct underline. On the limits of hind angulation. Short croup with correct tailset. Nicely pigmented. Lost out today on being lose going & coming but with a ground covering gait.

PG (7,4) 1 Doran's Starkherz Issy, 3 year old, b/g female. Medium size, medium strength. Loved her type & proportions with a shapely but unexaggerated outline. Ultra feminine head & expression with firm ears. Correct bite & dentition. Well laid shoulders, slightly short but well angled upper arm. High withers. Well developed forechest. Excellent brisket depth to leg length proportions. Firm back, with a short loin & firm underline. Well moulded croup & correct tailset. Excellent hind angulation. Correct coming, quite close going with a powerful, driving profile action. Well pigmented, a very deserving RBOB;

2 Green's Greenveldt Hagrid, 7 month old, b/g male. Very raw but well proportioned of lovely type & substance. Excellent head, correct bite & dentition. Firm ears. High wither. Good lay of shoulder, slightly short upper arm. Needs to develop his forechest, the best feet & pasterns of the day. Needs to deepen in brisket a touch. Firm topline onto a slightly flat but long croup with decent tailset. Moderate hind angles with absolutely firm hocks. Lose coming but absolutely sound going with an easy, far reaching side gait when settled. Took BP over the Junior winner on his better outline & hind thrust. An exciting male.

O (6,4) 1 Wilson's Zentrum's Yanka at Clynalwin, 4 year old, b/g female. Moderate type of bitch all through of medium size & strength. Liked her feminine head & expression but still strong. Correct bite & full dentition. Nice lay of shoulder but a touch steep in upper arm. A little deep in brisket for balance. Firm back, well developed underline. Long, sloping croup with correct tailset. Correct hind angulation with firm hocks. Correct coming & going with an economical side gait. Her young handler did a superb job. BOB;

2 Corr's Harco's Lindyhop, 5½ year old, b/g female. Medium size, substantial female. Strong but feminine head & expression of good proportions. Dark eyes & firm ears. Correct bite & dentition. Normal withers. Nice lay of shoulder, short upper arm. A little deep in brisket. Well boned legs. Firm back, could be slightly firmer in underline. Short & steep in croup, correct tail set. Firm hocks. Correct coming & going, balanced side gait with good drive. Felt she was a bit stuffy on her front compared to 1.

KOOIKERHONDJES – J (1) 1 Williams' Cairnbraid Onwaba Lukimbi of Gladshheim, an immature 16 month old male who is just coming back into coat. Really appealed in his strong head & expression with nice eye shape & colour. Lovely earset with correct furnishings. Nice forechest with straight legs & good feet. Needs to spring in rib, firm topline with a short loin. Balanced angulation throughout. A sound, mover with good deportment. Nice clear markings, confident temperament.

PG (2,1) 1 Kennedy's Crunchcroft Lyrical, 6 year old, well bodied bitch. Very compact & strong throughout. Feminine head & expression with correct earset & decent furnishings. Slightly upright in shoulder. Stands a touch wide in front. Well sprung ribs with a firm topline. Moderate hind angles. Tidy mover going away, a little wide coming. Free flowing, balanced profile movement

O (2) 1 William's Daniella vom Thyrowberg to Gladshheim, slightly longer cast than 2, 4 year old female. In very good coat. Balanced outline, feminine head & expression with correct ear set & size with ample furnishings. Correct lay of shoulder & lovely upper arm length & angle. Straight

limbs with good feet. Nice brisket depth with a firm topline & well developed underline. Excellent hind angles, well muscled. So very true coming & going with an easy, fluid side gait. A pleasure to award her BOB, so pleased to hear she took G4, thought she was delightful;

2 Kennedy's Crunchcroft Onyx, 4 year old, upstanding masculine male. A little square in outline for me. Really appealing headpiece with a strong, keen expression. Darkest of eyes with correct set. Nice layback of shoulder with a well angled but slightly short upper arm. Correct length of leg, a little short in back for balance. Compact loin, moderate hind angles. True coming & going but busier & more restricted than 1 in profile.

GORDON SETTERS – J (6,3) 1 Jaconelli & Sandiford's Hernwood American Pharaoh, 10 month old, well boned male. My notes say, 'a most impressive youngster', & I think this is rather fitting. Immediately appeals in his lovely breed type & typical outline in profile with no ounce of coarseness. His head is well proportioned with a lovely low ear set but I would prefer him to be slightly tighter in eye, if I was to be critical! Lovely reach of neck onto excellent shoulder placement & angle. Needs to develop in forechest, this will come with time. Great substance with nice feet. Ribs are well sprung for age with a firm topline & short loin. Excellent hind angulation with an ideal lay of croup & tailset. Needs to tighten a touch in front but his hind movement was good for a youngster. An impressive side gait with great reach & tail carriage. Loved his arrogant & care free attitude. Most promising, so pleased to award him BP;

2 Palliser's Lignum Tornado, 13 month old female. A really elegant type of bitch with very good substance. Liked her flowing lines. Her head is of great appeal being feminine & well proportioned with the correct ear set & eye shape. Lovely reach of neck that flows onto excellent shoulders, prominent forechest. Well boned legs & tight feet. Well bodied with good spring of rib, short loin. Straight topline with excellent croup & tail set. Would prefer a touch more hind angulation. True coming & going with an excellent side gait. Clean tan markings. She had the edge over 1 in maturity but would benefit from more confidence, a lovely young bitch.

L (4,2) 1 Robson's Liric For Your Eyes Only by Yohenoak, a 3 year, upstanding male. Has great substance & in excellent coat. Liked his typical outline. Masculine head but expression could benefit from tighter eyes. Absolutely correct earset. Decent reach of neck, a touch upright in shoulder but has a nice upper arm. Well developed forechest with well boned legs & tight feet. Well sprung ribs with a deep brisket. Level topline, short loin & excellent croup & tailset. Lovely hind angles with good length from hip to hock. Moves true coming & going but felt he lacked forward reach compared to my main winners;

2 Halliday's Yennadon Reiss, a nearly 3 year old male. Built on smaller & lighter lines than 1. Typical shape & type. Head is well proportioned but felt he was a touch broad in backskull. Correct earset. Decent reach of neck, needs to develop in forechest. Nice lay of shoulder with a short but well angled upper arm. Good feet. Well sprung ribs but would benefit from slightly more depth of brisket. Firm topline, short loin. Croup is a little steep with a slightly lower tailset. Moderately angled in rear. True coming, slightly close going away. Moves with enthusiasm in profile. A very honest, workmanlike type of dog. Clear tan markings. Today, he was lacking the overall maturity of 1 overall.

O (4,1) 1 Smith's Glenkinchie Soul Drifter, a rugged, old fashioned type male of 4 years with great showmanship & arrogance. Excelling in breed type, substance but not coarse. Loved his outline, so very typical. His head is deep & not too broad with the correct proportions. His eye is dark enough. Correct ear set & length. Lovely reach of neck onto absolutely correct shoulder placement & angle. Well development forechest with excellent bone & feet. Deep brisket, strong topline, good length of back with super croup & tailset. Excellent hind angles. A little erratic going away but true coming. This dog excels in profile with a long striding, stylish side gait & excellent tail carriage. Clear tan markings. Pleased to award him BOB, congratulations;

2 Poynter's Hernwood Storm Rider, a lighter framed 4 year old male. A contrast in type to 1 but still very correct & typical in outline. Liked his clean head planes with tight eyes & lovely low ear set of excellent length. Nice reach of neck. Well laid shoulders, good return of upper arm. Decent forechest. His bone suits his frame, super feet. Firm topline, compact loin with a lovely tailset & croup. Balanced hind angles. Moves true both ways with a stylish side gait. In good coat with nice tan & handled with professionalism. Just preferred the substance & strength overall of 1. RBOB, congratulations!

JAMES NEWTON

