

Hitchin and District Canine Society Open Show

Sunday 15th October.

I would like to thank the Committee of this well run show for their invitation to judge some of my favourite breeds and Best In Show. I thoroughly enjoyed my day.

Best In Show

The line up of Group winners was impressive with all dogs beautifully presented and each dog had the opportunity to show themselves to their best in the large ring.

BIS went to the stunning Basenji, Frost's 'Ch Rebel Rebel of Bushwacker'. This dog was in cracking form and just owned the ring with his presence. He was in outstanding muscled condition which showed in his movement, I was honoured to have the opportunity to go over him.

RBIS was another stunner, the German Spitz Mittel, Barnes and King's 'Ch Spellcast Talk To Da Tail'. This glamorous cream girl carried a fabulous coat, and coupled with sound movement and a beautiful head and expression she was unlucky to meet the Basenji.

BPIS Allan and Winfrow's 'Allmark The Sequel'. This Australian Shepherd took my eye the moment he stormed into the ring, his coat and markings are so eye-catching. He did not disappoint when I went over him, with sound movement and strong construction, one to watch indeed.

RPIS Seymour and Newton's 'Pegasett Miz Guydance'. A beautifully balanced Gordon Setter with a gleaming coat and lovely head. I loved her profile movement and outline.

BVIS Boden's 'Sh Ch Tweedsmuir Beautiful Dream Among Suelynda'. I loved everything about this majestic Clumber Spaniel, she was just wonderful, with excellent bone and a beautiful head.

Chihuahua (Long Coat)

Jr D/B, 5(2abs) 1-Ansell's 'X-Lady Myojo Dogomania', RBOB and BP, a very attractive red and white girl with a good mouth and lovely head and expression. She had style and confidence and moved very smartly with a strong topline and well carried tail.

2-Zsentko's 'Davixity Electricity Storm at Bennettia'. I adored this happy little blue fawn girl, my take home dog of the day. She would have won the class if her novice handler had not been so distracted by well meaning help from outside the ring. I can see this combination having a very promising future and wish them all the best.

3- Wheeldon's 'Capevidles Stargazer'

Open D/B (1,0) 1st Ansell's 'Penapettit Picasso', BOB, A very well constructed, confident and sound fawn sable and white boy, he had a good masculine head, straight bone and strong well let down hocks.

Chihuahua (Smooth Coat)

Jnr D/B 1- Ansell's 'Szedar Myojo Dogomania' a pretty red fawn girl in lovely coat and condition, good head and ear set, she was stepping a bit high in front today.

2/-Hill's 'Carouselway Moonshine at Lilliputchi', a black and tan girl who had a good level topline, and moved well with good tail carriage, needs time for her head to fill out.

3/Barker's 'Valenchino Prima Ballerina'

PG D/B, (5,0) 1- Ansell's Myojo Toy Story', a lovely tippy cream in beautiful coat and condition. She moved with style and confidence. Her coat was thick and body condition was good.

2-Hill's 'Lilliputchi Bilbo', BP, this handsome 11 month fawn sable was a real extrovert which unfortunately affected his tail carriage, I hope as he matures he settles on the move. I liked his head and sound construction.

3-Zsento's 'Chibull Mr Biggs At Bennettia'

Open D/B (2.2) 1- BOB, Ansell's 'Myojo Care Bear', every dog presented by this exhibitor was confident and happy and this guy even more so, carried himself like a star with a beautiful straight front and well laid shoulder and well let down hocks all producing good movement. His coat was beautiful and he kept a level topline on the move.

2-Hill's 'Aristodemos Beau Sancy at Lilliputchi, RBOB, another lovely example of the breed, with a beautiful head, level topline and just losing out to 1 on movement today.

Poodle Min, Sp Yrl, (2,1) 1-BOB, BPIB, Ingarfill's 'Diza Fleisch Geoffrey' imp, a 10 month old dark silver which is beginning to clear. This boy had a lovely head and sparkling eye, good substance and body condition. He needs to settle and stride out a bit more which hopefully will come with maturity.

Poodle Standard

Jr D/B (4,1) 1-RBOB, Geeson's 'Janavons Dancing In Daisies', lovely white bitch with such a pretty head and expression. She has lean cheeks with lovely chiselling, a good chin and beautiful eye shape. She was beautifully presented and she moved with style and soundness.

2- Ratcliffe and Booth's 'Namkia Thou Art Beloved', Well, this exuberant boy might have been called 'dashing in daisies'. This 17month powerful white male was in lion trim, and beautifully presented. He was a total extrovert which hampered him in a small ring. He has a lovely head and eye and is very stylish and rather wild, I loved him.

3-Main's 'Chalkwell Happy Hour',

P/Grad D/G, 1- 'Ratcliffe and Booth's 'Namkia Thou Art Beloved'

2- Aikman's 'Namkia Carrying The Torch', a 5yr old dark silver who carried a huge coat, unfortunately she paced but when she did fall into trot her movement was stylish and sound.

3- Ratcliffe's 'Acecliffe Stars Surprise'

Open D/B (6,3) BOB, Geeson's 'Janavons Lady Francesca'. I was not expecting to find anything to beat the Junior bitch but loved absolutely everything about this girl. At 3 her silver coat has started to clear nicely, her head was divine, lean chiselled cheeks, good chin, super eye set and shape. She had just enough of everything and an expression that melted your heart while still promising some wickedness. Her sound construction and beautiful free straight movement made her my stand out winner.

Poodle Toy, Jr (1,0) Reeve's 'Ajanti Moon Pie', BOB, BPIB, this young male had a great outline with well carried head, although very immature you can see his promise.

AV Imported Register

Spcl Yrlg D/B, (3,3) Best Imp Reg, BP, 1-Punton's 'Tamoanchan Tecuanotl', First was the elegant and stylish Xoloitzcuintle, it was great to see one with such a good covering of hair, right down to the tips of the toes. This 11mth bitch had a good bite, a well balanced head and lovely eye and expression. She had just enough of everything with no exaggeration and her sound movement and correct angulation were a delight to see.

2-Hornby's 'Watereatons Doomba', Korthals Griffon, this was a well grown 9 month old boy, his coat was well developed with good texture and he is powerfully built but the ring was too small for him to really show his paces.

3-Thurston's 'Liubice Bohemia'

Open B/B 1- Cunningham's 'Morningcalm Firethorn', Korean Jindo,

2- Thurston's 'Morningcalm Chamoise' I found this the hardest class of the day, as the two examples of Korean Jindo were really chalk and cheese. There was much to like about both, but one was a touch lacking in overall 'finish', with a leaner wedge head, while the other seemed slightly too much. I made my decision finally on to and fro movement but this is one of those decisions that make you want to study the breed in far more depth as both dogs fitted the breed standard, and indeed on seeing my catalogue later they are both from the same kennel.

AV Rare Breed

Junior D/B 1-Kennedy's 'Crunchcroft Quantum Leap', Kooikerhondje, this dog was well balanced and neat, he had a very attractive head and eye while still being masculine and held a good outline when moving.

2-Hancock's 'Flamencoton Seimei, BP, an enchanting 7 month old Coton De Tulear. He was very confident and adorable, with lovely coat and condition and moved very well for such a youngster.

3-Fieldsend and Theaker's 'Tisalmyn Miss Money Penny by Starwell', Catalan Sheepdog.

P/Grad D/B (7,2) 1-B/Av RB, Thompson and Wiesmuller's 'Tsoyu Kokoro No Hiroi', Japanese Akita Inu, what an impressive young male, in full coat and excellent condition. I was impressed with his strong bone with no sign of coarseness and lovely straight front. He had sufficient bend of stifle and well let down hocks producing athletic movement. His head is superb, with well developed cheeks, obliquely set eye and well carried ears. I hope to see him when he matures.

2-Dickenson's 'Kalaslane Demyan', Russian Black Terrier

3-Hancock's 'Szolohegyi Bitanguzo Jett', Coton De Tulear.

Open D/B (5,3) 1-McDonnell's 'Hadranensis Ardito', Cirneco Dell Etna, a lovely 3 year old bitch with lovely balance. She was strong and well bodied but elegant with very good movement, she is a stunning girl.

2-Clarke's 'Cotonkiss Buddy Holly', Coton De Tulear. A 4 yr old boy who was well bodied and in good coat, he was well boned and substantial.

Judge, Clare Andrew (CLARAN)