

Hitchin and District Canine Society

13/10/19

Critique

I would like to thank the committee for inviting me to judge Rough and Smooth Collies. I was delighted to see that my Smooth Best of Breed won the group.

Rough Collie

Post Graduate (4 entries, 2 absent)

1st. Murray and Bellamy's Beloreen Starman. Blue Merle Male with a good head and ears and a nice crested neck. Better front of the two present with a good depth of chest and nice feet. Good coat texture and a balanced body with sufficient rib and a gentle rise over the loin. Good rear movement and moved well in profile. A dog of good type and happy to award Reserve Best of Breed.

2nd. Ludlow's Tudorlyn Misty Dreams for Malina. Sable dog with an attractive head and eye shape and good ears. Not the front of the winner and weaker at the rear. Excellent coat texture and overall not bad body proportions with a gentle rise over the loin and good tail set.

Open (3 entries, 1 absent)

1st. Benton and Smith's Brooklynson El Dorado. Sable dog of excellent quality, with a lovely head, slight stop and beautiful almond eyes and good ears giving all giving the sweet expression I was looking for. Good length of neck going into well laid shoulders and good depth of chest with a strong loin giving a gentle rise. OK feet, could be tighter. Excellent coat and condition and very sound mover particularly in profile. Best of Breed.

2nd. Ludlow's Maqueebea Just a Dream for Malina. Overall a nice head with almond eyes and a sweet expression but unfortunately had a number of missing teeth. Good coat texture, OK front, not as good as the winner and moved closer behind than I would prefer. Good body proportions overall.

Smooth Collie

Junior (1 entry)

1st. Bodle's Blamorder New Dawn over Lionsridge. A well marked Tricolour male with overall good head proportions with parallel head planes and an almond eye just unfortunately a bit heavy overall for me. Good shoulder lay, still needs to develop in chest however rear angulation was balanced. Not yet settled in his movement on the up an back however looked nice in profile.

Limit (2 entries, 1 absent)

1st. Benton and Bemelmans Oakstelle Asteria. 2 year old blue merle with a feminine head of correct proportions, parallel planes, slight stop and almond eyes giving a sweet expression.

Lovely length of neck going into well laid shoulders. Excellent feet and good bone. Good depth of chest but still developing. Balanced rear angulation and well set tail. Excellent sound movement in profile and on the up and back. Happy to award best of breed.

Open (2 entries, 1 absent)

1st. Benton's Oakstelle Venus De Milo. Well marked 6 year old blue merle bitch with a lovely head. Slightly rounder eye than I would prefer. Excellent length of neck, shoulders and overall front construction and very good feet. Lovely depth of chest and top line with a gentle rise over the loin. Balanced rear angulation and low set tail. Lovely sound movement and presented in excellent condition, a close call between her and her younger kennel mate but had to settle for reserve bet of breed today.

David Knights (Lelaps)