CRITIQUE - CRUFTS DOG SHOW Judge: Mrs D S Smillie-Gray

It was a great honour to be invited to judge at Crufts. I owned my first GSP over 40 years ago and they have been a huge part of my life and love over the years. I was really looking forward to standing on the green carpet and judging my favourite breed. Thank you to all for your entries and the great atmosphere around the ring making it a truly memorable day.

Veteran Dog (2,1). **1 Burford's Kavacanne Morgan You Know**. Stood alone in this class but a worthy winner. 8 years old and excellent muscle tone and moves soundly with style and power, Good size and has a good expression, clean neck into good shoulders. Smart dog. Well handled.

Puppy Dog (4). 1 McCafferty's Thorscrag Hades. Close decision between this boy and my 2nd place puppy. Just preferred the head of my winner. He has lovely clean lines, good bone, nice size and good depth. Excellent tight feet, good length and holds his topline well on the move. Good depth for his age and well muscled. Classy boy. I shall watch his progress in the show ring with interest. 2 Russell's Fraulynzway Lightning Bolt. Another smart boy. Excellent depth, lovely alert expression, good bone and good angulation. Moves well with power and style. Quality boy. 3 Schoneville's Orchidstar Themisto by Balvenie. A baby in this class, but sound as a pound. Excellent angulation, his head is developing well and moves well for his age.

Junior Dog (4,1). **1** Russell's Fraulynzway Lightning Bolt. **2** Schoneville's Orchidstar Themisto by Balvenie. **3** Howse's Blueskies Ryder's Rocks. This lad has done all his growing and is needing time to tighten up on his movement. Not too settled today in the class but did move soundly.

Post Graduate Dog (5). **1 Hill's Ceilloch Russian**. Smart dog, loved his head being typical of a GSP. Good depth and angulation and moved soundly. An honest type. **2 Scourfield's Relstraum Tott Wolfsburg**. I see sired by my winner of veteran dog. Similar type and size to my winner, good neck and clean shoulders, short back and angulation. Moves well. **3 Cox & Carradus' Cornibus Spruce**. Only a youngster and needing time to drop into himself. Moves well and sound moving.

Limit Dog (7,2). 1 Rose & Hunt's Pingarypoint Top Secret at Kavacanne JW. This boy has always been a favourite of mine and he has matured into a lovely dog. His movement is a joy to watch as he has power and style but yet looks effortless. Excellent angulation, good topline and well muscled. Certainly built for a day's work. I note his dam was my Best Veteran and RCC Bitch winner. 2 Wetton & Morris' Kavacanne Bolt from The Blue. Another smart boy with an excellent coat, good head and lovely angulation. Good depth and muscle, moves out well. Sired by my RCC dog winner. 3 Shepherd's Orchidstar Full Speed Ahead. Typy youngster, needing more time to mature on. Good clean front and masculine head, angulation OK.

Open Dog (8). A good quality class. **1 Sielski's Orchidstar Bolts of Speed**. Absolutely delighted to award this cracking dog his crown and 3rd CC. Excellent size dog, nothing exaggerated about him. Good masculine head but not overdone, very good coat and angulation. Really well muscled and moves so soundly and effortlessly around the ring but with power and drive. Well handled and congratulations to his clever breeder. *DCC*. **2 Brown & Burns' Sh Ch Magregor Pop The Dom over Pothouse**. Another quality boy who is also a great sire. His sire I gave his 3rd ticket to, so obviously love this type. He cannot be overlooked, excellent depth, loved his head, good angulation and well muscled. Sound mover. *RDCC*. **3 Kolodziejczyk's Nestor Kajminia**. A smart GSP who was well handled. Excellent topline and good depth of rib, well muscled and good coat. Very sound moving.

Good Citizen Scheme Dog (1). 1 Schoneville's Orchidstar Themisto by Balvenie.

Veteran Bitch (7,3). 1 Burford's Pingarypoint Hot Topic. I judged this classy girl a few years ago and gave her Group 1, she still has everything I was looking for. At nearly 10 years of age, she can certainly show the youngsters how to move, good head and expression, lovely clean front and good topline, great angulation. Delighted to award her *RBCC* and *BV*. 2 Whitehouse's Kazanpaul Creme De La Crème. Same sire as my winner and has many of the same qualities I was looking for today. You cannot deny her quality even though she is not the happiest in the ring. Lovely head and expression, good depth and angulation, moves true and sound, quality girl. 3 Lindridge's Amidala Fast and Furious JW. Another quality girl with a melting expression, very good angulation and moves with power and style.

Puppy Bitch (4). A class of smart puppies. **1 Barnett's Magregor Howl to The Moon**. Really liked this girl and I am sure she will have a bright future in the ring. Lovely clean lines, very good angulation, sound as a pound. Quality girl and moves well. **2 Tait's Benboee Beeloved**. Another quality girl, slightly longer cast than my winner but clean throughout, gorgeous head and lovely expression, moves well for one so young. **3 Court's Magregor Seventh Moon over Ballyheige**. Litter sister to my winner and same qualities. Today wasn't settled but couldn't deny her quality. Good coat and angulation and moves well. Interestingly all three pups were sired by my RDCC winner.

Junior Bitch (6). 1 Tait's Benboee Beelieve. Litter sister to 2nd in Puppy. When she entered the ring she caught my eye, such clean lines and a true GSP head, very good coat, good depth and moves effortlessly around the ring with grace and power. Did consider her for RCC. Delighted to award her *BP*. 2 Sielski's Orchidstar Missing Link. A quality girl who I am sure will have a great career in the show ring. A very good coat, good head and expression, excellent depth and well put together, good angulation and moves soundly and with drive. 3 Fry's Waldburg Seren. This young girl has the most gorgeous head and soft expression, good depth and angulation. Moves well and a good honest type and could not overlook her in this class.

Post Graduate Bitch (15,2). A great variation of types in this class. **1 Thomas' Brainescroft Pinkster**. Smart girl with the best movement, moves with power and drive. Good depth and angulation, good topline and head. **2 Brudenell-Pryke's Puddledub Pilis**. Best of heads in this class, good size and clean lines. Sound honest type of girl and a good mover, well muscled. **3 Davies' Faircastle Electra**. This girl was having problems with the carpet and slipping which unsettled her, however, on the move she went well. Good angulation and well muscled. Would like to see her in an outside ring.

Limit Bitch (11,3). 1 Stewart, Currie & Boyles' Magregor Amourette avec Levagrad. To me today the star of the day, she was what I was looking for in the breed. Best of heads, good neck into clean shoulders, good depth, lovely angulation fore and aft. Excellent coat, really well muscled and when she moved it was lovely to see so effortless with power and drive, moves true. *BCC & BOB*. Delighted that she got to do a lap of honour in the Best in Show Ring, she looked lovely and a credit to her breeders and owners. Note that she is litter sister to my RCC winner. 2 Garvey's Richtig Ragdoll JW. A quality youngster, I see sired by the same dog as my DCC winner. Her overall quality cannot be denied, and she is a great size, lovely depth of rib and good coat. Good muscle and a good mover. 3 Burford's Pingarypoint Legolicious JW. Another quality girl from this kennel. Moves out with power and drive, good muscle and angulation, good breed type.

Open Bitch (7,4). **1 Sielski's Orchidstar Jenga**. Stood out in this class, another quality girl from this kennel. Very good depth and angulation, really well muscled, good topline and length, good expression and moves out well. **2 Pomorska-Grochowska's Brown Sugar Erinwill**. Smart girl, good head and expression, would prefer a harsher coat. Good angulation and moves like a train, good size. **3 Blair's Richtig Rihanna**. Honest type of GSP, preferred heads of my winners. Well muscled, moves soundly.

Special Working Gundog Bitch. 1 Szczesiak's Hexa Kajminia FCI. Stood alone in this class, but she is a quality girl. Moves around the ring with power and drive, good muscle and feet, held her topline well. Certainly, fit for a day's work.

Good Citizen Scheme Bitch (4,1). 1 Brudenell-Pryke's Puddledub Pilis. 2 Walker's Zarozinia Phoenix Rising over Jolicoem. Smart workmanlike girl, good coat and head, moves out well. 3 Prior's Jolicoem Jevington of Whinchat. Veteran girl, such an honest type. Good depth and angulation, moves well for her age.