

CRITIQUE - DARLINGTON DOG SHOW SOCIETY

Judge: Miss H L Rose

It was an absolute pleasure to judge at this show, to see so many familiar faces and reconnect with the dog show community after some time away. I must say, it was truly heart-warming to see so many dedicated exhibitors and their beautiful dogs gather in one place. In some classes, I found myself truly spoilt for choice, which is a delightful predicament to be in. There were numerous dogs that deserved higher awards but unfortunately, there simply weren't enough to go around. It was a testament to the overall quality of the entries and the effort put forth by the exhibitors. The level of competition was truly impressive, and it made the task of selecting winners quite challenging. One aspect that particularly stood out to me was the impressive head structure across many of the exhibits. Approaching these dogs to assess them was a joy, as I was greeted with delightful heads that truly captured the essence of the breed. I did notice that some dogs seemed to lack the desired balance between the front and rear end. Specifically, the back ends seem to be lacking in strength, which affected the overall harmony of the dogs' structure. Nonetheless, I must commend everyone for their dedication and the evident passion they have for the breed. It was a joy to witness the hard work and love that goes into presenting these dogs in the show ring. Congratulations to all participants and thank you so much for supporting me with your entry.

Veteran Dog (2,1). **1 Thurm's Sh Ch Bryburn Bacchus JW ShCM ShCEx**. It was lovely to have the opportunity to get my hands on this boy having seen him ringside throughout his show career. He is a great ambassador for the breed. 7 years of age and in great condition. Excellent head with a soft expression. Strong neck leading to well laid shoulders. Great depth and spring of rib. Moved so soundly around the ring with drive.

Minor Puppy Dog (3). **1 Adams' Tequesta Poldark**. I was very impressed by this boy, just a baby at 6 months old but shows great potential. Good head & eye. Strong neck, well laid shoulders leading to strong top line. Moved around the ring well. I am sure he will have an exciting puppy career and a bright future once he has matured. **BPIB**. **2 McMurdo & Tierney's Ceilloch Express**. Loved the colouring of this young male. He has a lovely roman nose and good eye. Elbows need to tighten but makes a nice outline. Well boned and strong hindquarters. A little unsettled on the move today. **3 Brown's Montalba Mustrum Ridcully**

Puppy Dog (1). **1 Adams' Tequesta Poldark**.

Junior Dog (3). **1 Heath & Robinson's Pinseeker Pep Guardiola**. A cracking youngster who fits the standard so well. In optimum condition with a great coat and perfect body condition. He makes the most pleasing outline with excellent front and rear angles. He has a clean neck which leads to well laid shoulders. Great depth of rib, short backed and stands over plenty of ground with a firm topline. He moves true away and back and covers the ground with ease when he goes around. Handler just needs to pull his head out a little more to show off his neck but nevertheless a contender for the RCC. **2 Schoneville's Orchidstar Themisto by Balvenie**. Smaller set male who has good substance throughout. Clean head with good breadth of skull. Well balanced throughout and in great condition. Moved okay and held his top line at all times but just lacked a little enthusiasm today. **3 McCafferty's Thorscrag Hades JW**.

Post Graduate Dog (2). **1 Schoneville's Orchidstar Themisto by Balvenie**. **2 Graham's Winterwell Tubby Tompkin from Nyliam JW**. Another smaller set male but balanced throughout and has a typical breed outline. Elbows turned out slightly and a little upright in shoulder. Unfortunately, he seemed unsettled on the day when moving so didn't show his true potential.

Limit Dog (5). **1 Bowler's Winterwell Iggy Inch JW**. The first time I have seen this dog, and he caught my eye immediately. He is a fantastic example of the breed. He is an overall a smart dog who is so well balanced throughout. He has a clean head and his neck flows effortlessly into well laid shoulders. He is short in back and strong in top line. Well-muscled loins, and great angles. He really comes into his own on the move and covers the ground effortlessly. Another contender for the RCC. **2 Marsh's Kilnrae Berliner**. A larger male but he is so balanced throughout with good substance. Lovely front & rear angles, in top condition and so pleasant to watch moving around the ring. **3 Thompson & Delaney's Parsonsview Showboating at Redmires**.

Open Dog (8,2). **1 Sielski's Sh Ch Orchidstar Bolts Of Speed**. I love everything about this dog. He oozes breed type and is so very sound, masculine without being course or heavy. Such a typical head with a gorgeous expression that I could look at all day. He is correctly balanced and immediately catches your eye. He has an impressive outline, with a strong neck, down to excellent shoulder placing. Great depth and length of rib with a strong loin. He holds his top line throughout and carries his tail perfectly. Well balanced angles fore and rear. He just eats up the ground on the move and is true going away and back but on the go around he demands your attention and is an absolute joy to watch. **DCC & BOB**. **2 Brown & Burn's Sh Ch Magregor Pop The Dom over Pothouse**. Another top-quality dog who I liked very much. Good overall balance, clean & masculine head with a strong neck leading to well laid shoulders. Excellent bone, deep in chest and short in back. Correct angles and carries his tail correctly. Strong hindquarters and well-muscled thighs. Covers the ground very well, just didn't quite have the showmanship of the winner. **RDCC**. **3 Collins' Barleyarch Hoopla at Forestpoint**.

Veteran Bitch (2). **1 Drew's Sh Ch Cushatlaw Illustrious JW ShCM**. I judged this girl when she was younger, awarding her the RCC and it was a delight to see her in action again, you wouldn't believe that she is 10 years old. She is so feminine with the most beautiful head. She makes such a pleasing outline and moved around the ring effortlessly with drive. She was up against some tough competition today but could easily have been in the top awards. **BV**. **2 Brown's Sh Ch Newlands Pass to Montalba**. Another veteran in great condition, she really excels on the move and covers the ground well. She has a lovely dark eye and harsh coat. Unfortunately, she wasn't the most co-operative on the stack, not allowing her handler to get the best shape out of her.

Minor Puppy Bitch (6,2). **1 Elrington's Tequesta Happy Valley**. What a little character this girl is, she was certainly enjoying her day out! She makes a lovely shape and has great shoulder placement, a strong top line down to a strong rear with a harsh coat. Pretty head but a little narrow in muzzle. She was rather bouncy on the move and made her handler work hard but she is just a baby, and this did not stop me from being able to see that she moves soundly and can cover the ground with ease. **2 Ellis' Soellis Feral Beryl**. Another fabulous puppy who was pleasing throughout. She has a lovely shape of head, eyes a little light but I'm sure these will darken as she matures. Excellent neck and shoulders with a well sprung rib. She moved around the ring so well and pushed hard for the win but unfortunately was carrying too much weight today. I am sure she will have an exciting future. **3 Brown's Montalba Miss Aching**.

Puppy Bitch (2). **1 Elrington's Tequesta Happy Valley**. **2 Ceilloch Luck Be A Lady**. This girl makes a nice shape on the stack and is a lovely type. Unfortunately, she was quite unsettled so didn't show her best but I'm sure with some time and patience she will have the confidence she needs in the ring.

Junior Bitch (2). **1 Barnett's Magregor Howl To The Moon over Tibertich**. A lot to like about this bitch, she is very unassuming but has so much quality. I'd not seen her before, but she looked so familiar, it wasn't then a surprise to see she is sired by the dog I awarded my first ever CC to. She is such a lovely type, good depth of chest and spring of rib. Well angled throughout and was so eye catching on the move. I would like to see her handler just stretch her out a little more on the stack. **2 Tait's Benboee Beelieve**. Another quality bitch who makes a pleasing outline. She has a strong, well arched neck and good shoulders. In this class she didn't seem to settle into herself which let her down however, in her second class she seemed more at ease and moved excellently around the ring.

Post Graduate Bitch (10,1). **1 Sielski's Orchidstar Missing Link JW**. I really liked this girl; she has a lot of similarities to her kennel mate. An understated bitch who doesn't immediately catch your eye on the stack however she is of such high quality. Beautiful head with a dark eye. Excellent shoulders, strong top line and balanced throughout. She really excelled on the move, and she was hard to take your eyes off. Pleased to award her the **RBCC**. **2 Staley's Jomeel Olivia's Choice**. Another quality bitch with a pleasing head, eye still needs to darken a little. Strong neck and shoulders with good front angles. Strong top line and tail set with a great length of stride on the move. **3 Barker's Barkersdream Who Dares Wins**.

Limit Bitch (7,1). **1 Pearson's Winterwell Lulu Moppet to Ladyhawke JW**. What a cracking bitch! She has so many qualities and has a true breed outline. Smart head with a beautiful, soft expression. Strong, clean neck, well placed shoulders, and correct length of upper arm. She has good length and depth of rib with a strong top line and strong hindquarters. She was so impressive on the stack but came alive on the move and was a joy to watch, moving straight and true and covered the ground so well. Thrilled to award her the **BCC** and especially pleased to learn this was her crowning ticket. **2 Jackman's Navigareamor Spring Tide**. This girl really surprised me and really got my attention. Very unassuming but once you get your hands on her, you cannot deny her quality. She is a lovely type and very correct throughout. So balanced from head to toe. She was an absolute delight on the move, sound and true. **3 Nixon's Quintana Lunar Eclipse**.

Open Bitch (9). This was a top-quality class and made for some tough decisions. **1 Sielski's Orchidstar Jenga**. Another bitch who I really liked, cut from the same mould as her kennel mates. Her construction is excellent throughout and she is so balanced at each end without being overdone. She moved effortlessly with good rear drive. A contender for top honours. **2 Hammond's Seasham Love Bug JW**. Beautiful, high quality bitch. Makes such a beautiful shape on the stack with a typical outline. Clean cut head with gentle expression and a dark eye. Well arched neck into well laid shoulders. Great front and rear angles. Moved around the with drive and has an excellent length of stride. Just preferred the overall balance of 1 but on another day, she could easily have been my winner. **3 Ellis' Soellis Fancy Nancy**.