CRITIQUE - GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER ASSOCIATION Judge: Mrs V Rusk

It was an honour to be asked to judge the GSPA Championship Show. Thank you to my two stewards Colin Woodward and Sue Robson. You did an excellent job. I thank all the exhibitors for bringing 134 dogs for my opinion. There were some very good dogs who went cardless, I didn't have enough places. On another day places could change. It was like judging classes of yesterday.

Limit and Open were tremendous classes in dogs and bitches, so full of quality. Heads were all good, on the minus side some movement left something to be desired. Surprised to see so many dew claws left on. But there were lots of youngsters coming along very nicely.

Minor Puppy Dog (5,1). 1 Brown's Graygees Gigolo. Promising baby, excellent coat, well balanced and went well 2 Braine's Grenetrest Canterbury Bell. Soft coat and a little long at the moment. 3 Adams' Graygees Slap'n' Tickle.

Puppy Dog (4,1). 1 Stopforth's Taftazini Cesar Chance. A lovely young lad, well grown, moved well, should do well, great coat and head. *BPIS*. 2 Sielskis' Orchidstar Bonds of Speed. Coat not too good but went well. 3 Pillinger's Withamfriary Sudley.

Junior Dog (7). 1 Hinchliff's Goosepoint Gloster Grebe (AI) JW. Very promising dog. Has all the right properties, will do very well, just needs time. Top quality, liked him a lot. 2 Hooper & Brooks' Kentsteen Diemel of Lollitank. In excellent condition, went well. 3 Drew's Archerpoint I Want It AII. Good class, all good dogs.

Yearling Dog (6). 1 Cox's Ceilloch Merlot By Cushatlaw. This one is improving with age, good head and feet, well balanced, another one who needs time. 2 McPherson's Whistlecraft Gandalph. Inexperienced handler didn't get the best out of him, but it's all there just needs bringing out. Liked him. 3 Steel's Water Germander Over Borderpoint.

Post Graduate Dog (9). 1 Pitmans' Pitwit Noble Opal. Another very good young lad. Excellent make and shape, good size, good in all respects. 2 Cook & Lamb's Brooke Will Do It Through Milcook. Larger dog than 1st. 3 Thomas's Brainscroft Tahiti.

Limit Dog (7) First three all very good in an excellent class. 1 Hamlin's Know No Bounds at Nuash. Good head, deep chest, strong quarters, excellent coat in hard condition. 2 Sielski's Orchidstar Wotsit JW. He's in nice proportions but would like more of him. 3 John's Keigame Jigsaw.

Open Dog (11,2). 1 Jedrzejczyk's CHPL ARES Z Wlodzimierzowa (ATC AU02960POL). He came all the way from Poland, one of the best solid livers I've seen in a long time. Starting from his lovely head with all the correct proportions. Beautiful dark kind eye, strong neck, super body with strength in his quarters. Good bone and feet. He is everything I look for in a GSP. Delighted to have given him his first CC in England. A dog I would love to own. *DCC & BIS*. 2 Smith & Reardon's Sh Ch Winterwell Fowl Play. Strong masculine dog. Coat really good, well balanced, moved well, pulled out all the stops for *RDCC*. 3 Flaherty & Reddyhoughs' Sh Ch Isara Kurzhaar Wieser JW ShCM. Three top class dogs. Not enough cards to go round and some dogs I like very much had to go cardless.

Veteran Dog (1). 1 Parr's Pruso Blue My Cover. Alone but a very worthy win, he looked and went well.

Special Veteran Dog (3) 1 Parr's Tikkaruger Apples and Pears. 2 Hamlin's Heathermark Calibre at Nuash. 3 Stedmans' Indijazz Grand Designer ShCM. Three lovely old dogs all showing their heads off.

Field Trial Dog (1). 1 Dymonds' Int Sh Ch, NL Ch, Lux Ch, Bel Sh Ch, DT Ch VDH & Benelux Ch Friarsbelle Marsh Mellow. Stood alone.

Good Citizen Dog Scheme (4). 1 Whitings' Ranger Two Rodale JW ShCM. This one fought hard for Res CC. he is strong without being course. Lovely head, great coat, good bone and went very well. 2 Hamlin's The Bisto Kid at Nuash. Good body shape, went well. 3 McPhersons' Whistlecraft Gandalf.

Minor Puppy Bitch (10,1). 1 Haynes' Graygees Skyhawk. Very promising baby, nicely balanced and went very well for such a youngster. 2 Izard's Yockletts Cordiale. Another one with all the potential of making it. A little larger than 1st at the moment. 3 Williams' Winterwell Cut Above at Bodlon. A trio of promising babies. One or two looked really good standing but when it came to moving they were a little overawed by the occasion.

Puppy Bitch (12,1). 1 Squire's Taftazini Honour Wynna. Litter sister to Best puppy. Same remarks apply. I'm sure they will change places many times. 2 Sielski's Orchidstar For Yur Eyes Only. 3 Gatliffe's Allezweck Evita.

Junior Bitch (13,2). **1 Knowles & Glen's Wilholme Agnes Brown at Bessalone**. Quality bitch, lovely shape and make. Good head and coat. Best mover in the class. **2 Rumney's Kacela Sweet Ayana**. Her name says she's sweet and she is. She should have a good future in front of her. Again good make and shape and went well. **3 Stammer's Deena Ballettanzer at Lochpointer**.

Yearling Bitch (8). 1 Hustler's Aytee Katerina. I liked this one a lot. Good front, body and rear end. Coat 1st class, moved well, good size. 2 Jackman's Katelands Cosmic Affair Via Navigareamor. A bigger bitch than 1st with a super coat and went well. 3 Tierne's' Ceilloch Crimson.

Post Graduate Bitch (8,1). 1 Pitman & Heydt's Pitwit Festive Time at Westard. Won this class easily, a lovely balanced bitch. 2 Joy's Pitwit The Best Surprise at Mannlicher. Litter sisters! Good proportions. Moved ok. 3 Edwards' Kacela Sweet Imani in Jadenco.

Limit Bitch (11). Three very nice bitches, little to separate them. 1 Ellis' Soellis Fannie Annie JW. I would like a little more of her all round. Sometimes she is stretched out too much which spoils her outline. But she went well enough to win a very good class. 2 Pudney's Pitwit Winter Glow JW. Nice balanced head, dark eye, good body shape just needs to mature. 3 Sielski's Orchidstar Xtra O'live JW. A bitch that's always in the cards. She's very promising, liked her a lot.

Open Bitch (11,3). A tremendous class full of top quality bitches, a lot had to go cardless unfortunately. 1 Mervyn's Ir Sh Ch & Lux Ch Tomanipoint Schumacher CW17, CJW15 JUN Ch. Good size without coarseness, lovely head, soft eye, strong body and rear end, moved well. Pulled out all the stops to take BCC, RBIS & BOS. She looked a picture standing. 2 Harris' Sh Ch Barleyarch Playtime (AI). RBCC. What a lovely girl she is, out of the top drawer. Have always liked her. She has now matured beautifully. Excellent harsh coat, moved a dream. She's perhaps a little longer in the loin than 1st but that's not a bad thing in a bitch. She's lovely. 3 Coxs' Cushatlaw Irresistable JW ShCM. Never seen this bitch looking better, she was in excellent condition. Three lovely bitches.

Veteran Bitch (4,1). 1 Pudneys' Stairfoot Skye. Still a youngster at 7 years. Very good coat, went well. **BV. 2 Pitman's Dyson's Delight** Via Pitwit. Coming up to 10, still looking really good. 3 Reinhard & White's Redic Ivory.

Special Veteran (5,1). 1 Pitman's Pitwit Playing Games JW. 11 years, loved the head on this old girl, she's still in really good condition. 2 Rumney's Sh Ch Keigame Sweet Melody. 11 years old. 3 Whitehouses' Kazanpaul Crème Brulee AWG. 11 years old. These three could really teach the youngsters how to move.

Field Trial Bitch (4,1). 1 Izard's Goosepoint Chincapin JW. A coat to die for and super movement. 2 Pitman's Pitwit Playing Games JW. 3 Fields' Deepthatch Pocana.

Good Citizen Dog Scheme Bitch (3,1) 1 Whitehouse's Kazanpaul Crème De La Crème. 2 Schoneville's Balvenie Midnight Rambler ShCM. Both good bitches, second a little longer than first.

I understand that some exhibitors from up north got caught up in snow and couldn't make it. I hope you all got home safely.