Critique – The German Shorthaired Pointer Association 2020 Show – Judge: Mrs D R Gatliffe

It is an honour to be invited to judge a breed championship show, so thank you to the GSPA for the privilege. A big thank you to Bill, my steward and I would like to thank my fellow exhibitors for a lovely entry.

Coats and fronts were much improved since the last time I judged the breed 4 years ago. Sadly, hind movement is still a worry. However, I had some really nice surprises when "hands on" which goes to show, never criticise ringside.

Minor Puppy Dog (4,2). 1 Harvey's Valger Snow Patrol at Imaniz. Very mature puppy already balanced. Lovely head and expression, well angulated, level topline. Good coat. Excellent on the move. Delighted to award him *BPIS*. 2 Mann's Sparkenhoe Kith And Kin. Another nice lad, has everything to like for his 10 months, couldn't match 1 for movement.

Puppy Dog (4). 1 Harvey's Valger Snow Patrol at Imaniz. 2 Brown's Montalba Mister Teatime. A different type to 1, has an old stamp to him. A kind head, lovely angles, good front and shoulder's, strong rear. 3 Marsh's Kilnrae Berliner.

Junior Dog (3). 1 Sielski's Orchidstar Bolts of Speed. A good head, strong neck. he has good angulation and excellent coat. 2 Hill's Ceilloch Russian. Liver and white boy from an old stamp. A good head. An overall decent young dog. Good coat. 3 Garget & Morris' Winterwell Eeh By Gum with Garwin.

Yearling Dog (5,1). 1 Collin's Barleyarch Hoopla at Forestpoint. A very neat package. Good head ratio. Good shoulders running into a good front, he has good angulation and a good coat. 2 Peebles' Seasham The Groover. A taller boy has everything in the right place, but I feel he's still coming together, but boy can he move. 3 Hamlin's Brocks Bouncer at Nuash.

Post Graduate Dog (2). 1 Schoneville's Balvenie Double Diamond. Strong looking liver and white boy. Good front and strong neck. leading to a good straight front, deep chest, and powerful hind quarters. He did look quite tense when stacked, although he moved out well with purpose. 2 Steadman's Indijazz Designer Genes. This solid black looked quite lovely when stacked. I liked his all-round conformation but couldn't match 1 for movement.

Limit Dog (7,1). 1 Smith and Reardon's Winterwell Maida Stone. Solid liver boy with a clean outline. A good head and lay of shoulder, straight front, and level topline, nice angles, strong in the rear. Moved out well. 2 Mann's Elfrindew Endrick to Valger. A longer cast boy. Love his type. Gorgeous head, and nicely angulated, straight front, level topline and strong hind quarters. Looked lovely when stacked. Not matching 1 today on movement. 3 Knowles & Glen's Wilholme Had A Lovely Time with Bessalone.

Open Dog (7). My class of the day. It's not often the dogs outshine the bitches but today they did, and any of the dogs in this line—up could easily change places on another day. 1 Brown's Graygees Gigolo JW SGWC. A powerful looking dog with ring presence. A noble head with a lovely kind expression, strong neck with a good lay of shoulder that runs into a straight front, deep chest and level topline, strong powerful hind quarters that powers him around on the move. Justly deserved his CC and BIS. 2 Sielski's Orchidstar Bonds Of Speed JW ShCM. Lovely boy. He has matured beautifully and is difficult to ignore. He presents a very clean outline with everything in the right place, topped off with a superb coat both in colour and texture. Today he moved better than I have ever seen him move, which is why I was pleased to award him the RCC & RBIS. 3 Harris' Sh Ch Barleyarch Pringle.

Veteran Dog (2). **1 Hamlin's Know No Bounds at Nuash**. Flashy liver and white boy. Excellent head ration, good angulation fore and aft, level topline. There's not many to match this boy on the move. **2 Smith & Reardon's Sh Ch Winterwell Fowl Play**. Different type to 1. Good head, his lay of shoulder is good, and front straight. Well angulated. Just not matching 1 on movement today.

Field Trial Dog (1). 1 Steel's Water Germander over Borderpoint. This lad is just a good honest dog with no frills. An old type of GSP. I could just watch him move all day, so easy and effortless as it should be.

Good Citizen Scheme Dog (2). 1 Hamlin's Easesprings Oberon at Nuash. Liver and white dog, good head and angles, level topline. Moves very well. Another making his movement look so easy. Well up to size. 2 Steadman's Indijazz Designer Genes.

Minor Puppy Bitch (9,2). 1 Whitehouse's Kazanpaul Prawn Cracker. A lovely breed type and so feminine. A little raw at the moment, but that's to be expected. No reason why she shouldn't come together with maturity. Won this class on coat texture and movement. 2 Mann's Valger Symphony. Very balanced for one so young. Lovely head and front assembly. Strong hind quarters. Another tipped for a bright future. 3 Rumney's Kacela Sweet Hadiya.

Puppy Bitch (7). 1 Whitehouse's Kazanpaul Prawn Cracker. 2 Hallam's Redic Shiraz. This little girl had a stamp of the old school. Very compact, excellent angles, strong in the rear, good coat. 3 Schoneville's Balvenie Eye Candy.

Junior Bitch (5). 1 Brown and Filby's Winterwell Thatlldo for Desjiem. Lovely feminine bitch, so balanced. Good angulation both fore and aft. 2 Edlin's Graygees Tsarine. I really liked this bitch, so typical. Everything in the right place but such a shame she was playing up today. 3 Schoneville's Balvenie Eye Candy.

Yearling Bitch (3). 1 Thurm's Dappledele First Date at Bryburn. Longer cast bitch with a lovely head and expression. Good front assembly and strong rear. She seemed a little unsettled today. 2 Joy's Solwaypoint Georgia at Mannlicher. Flashy liver and white bitch. Very compact with good angles and an excellent coat. 3 Trocki's Aytee Octavia.

Post Graduate Bitch (13). 1 Harris' Barleyarch Pakora. Strong looking bitch with well laid shoulders, good angles and topline. Excellent coat. Moved with purpose. 2 Hammond's Seasham Hot Love. Nice type. Good head and expression. No exaggeration here, just a good honest bitch. 3 Lockett's Fayemm Forever Together.

Limit Bitch (9,1). 1 Hammond's Seasham I Love To Boogie. My type of bitch. Feminine head, good front and lay of shoulder. Level topline and strong rear. Very like her litter sister, but with a little more finesse. Love her and pleased to award her the RCC. 2 Barker's Radstorm Legal Eagle at Barkersdream JW. This girl has a stamp of the old school. So typical. Liked everything about her, my only criticism would be coat texture. Unlucky to meet 1. 3 Trow & Jowsey's Winterwell Stoney Trail.

Open Bitch (7,1). 1 Rumney's Sh Ch Kacela Sweet Ayana. This girl cannot be ignored in a line up. A good head, straight front, level topline, strong in the rear, lovely angles, and an excellent coat. A little upright in pasterns. 2 Elrington's Barleyarch Dorito at Tequesta JW. A compact bitch, very feminine. Lovely to watch on the move. Sadly, out of coat today. 3 Pearson's Ladyhawke Dizzy Miss Lizzy.

Veteran Bitch (2). **1 Cox's Sh Ch Cushatlaw Irresistible JW ShCM**. What a happy girl! Beautiful head and soft expression, well angulated fore and aft. Good coat. Moved out well. **2 Prior's Jolicoem Jevington of Whinchat**. A larger type. Lovely head and expression, a good front and strong in the rear. She didn't seem relaxed today although moved out well.

Special Veteran Bitch (2). 1 Thurm's Sh Ch Valger Odette JW. Wow! What can one say about this girl, only that she is amazing. She has everything in the right place, a true GSP and a cracking mover to boot. 2 Coe and Pitman's Int Sh, Lux Ch, NL Ch, DT Ch (VDH) & Ir Sh Ch Pitwit Leona. A larger set girlie with a good head, strong neck runs into good shoulders and front, a strong well–muscled rear.

Field Trial Bitch (2). 1Izard's Ch Yockletts Cordiale. Have admired this bitch from the ring side and pleased to be able to get my hands on her, she didn't disappoint. A good head with a good lay of shoulder, giving way to an excellent front. Perfect angulation, no exaggeration here. A well-muscled rear with a lovely coat both in colour and texture. Moved well. A lovely bitch which richly deserved the CC & BOS. 2 Nixon's Quintana Qin Qiao. No frills on this girl. She has everything in the right place, her movement is a dream. She just melted my heart. A true GSP.

Good Citizen Scheme Bitch (2). 1 Jackman's Balvenie Dressed to Thrill Via Navigareamor. A good compact neat bitch. Lovely head, good angulation and topline. A lovely little mover. 2 Barker's Barkersdream Who Dares Wins. Attractive bitch. Good head and angles, level topline. Her movement was a little erratic, but she's still a baby so has plenty of time.