THE GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER CLUB OPEN SHOW Judge: David Alcorn

I had eagerly anticipated this appointment for some time, and the day certainly didn't disappoint. First of all, I was honoured that the committee had sought to elect me as judge for the day, and then to be favoured with an entry of 57 dogs was quite something. The depth of quality was fantastic, and I really must thank those who brought their lovely GSP's for my consideration. My two stewards, Sue Reddyhough and Gavin Gatliffe, kept everything running smoothly all day and I must also mention Tracey Hayes who fed and watered us all day with her culinary delights!

From a star-studded entry, I was pleased to award BIS to Sh Ch Magregor Threesacrowd at Pothouse JW ShCM and RBIS/BOS to Soellis Fannie Annie JW, with Cushatlaw Charisma claiming BPIS.

Minor Puppy Dog (3,1). A duo of really pleasing babies here with 1 Glen & Knowles' Wilhome Had A Lovely Time With Bessalone claiming this nice class by a whisker. This young dog certainly did have a "lovely time" as he was skilfully piloted by his sympathetic and kind handler so professionally all through. This chap is so confident and moves with such composure, he really impressed. Smart headpiece, strongly made throughout he is well off for bone and substance too. Hot on the tails of this dog was 2 McArdle's Archerpoint I Want It All, who is another fine specimen and exciting prospect. Another of good make, shape and balance all through. I am sure these youngsters will go on to do very well, good luck!

Puppy Dog (2). 1 Glen & Knowles' Wilholme Had A Lovely Time With Bessalone. 2 McArdle's Archerpoint I Want It All.

Junior Dog (3,1). 1 Staley's Jomeel Midnight Rambler. Good type in this young male, he's just going through a rather rangy stage at present, as you'd expect at this age. He was well settled to his job on the move which edged him ahead of 2 Cox's Ceilloch Merlot by Cushatlaw who was just a bit unsettled today, but he possesses a good head and was presented in first class order. Preferred his more compact outline, however 1 was more settled on the move on this occasion. His time will come.

Yearling Dog (3,1). 1 Thurm's Bryburn Bacchus JW. Now this is a grand dog, and only a youngster so yet to come to his absolute best. Head appeals for type, with good eyes and correct ears. His neck is strong, arched, and leads smoothly into well laid shoulders. His topline is hard and level, leading along to his well set on tail. He is well boned and straight limbed, which showed in his accurate movement away and back. Really moves out going around, using his construction to his advantage which saw him take RBD in good company. I must also add that I found his joie de vivre hugely endearing, and his competent handler did a great job of challenging his obvious enthusiasm! 2 Sielski's Orchidstar Wotsit, who showed well and was just overshadowed by the winner today, he's not quite so good in shoulder which affected his front movement.

Novice Dog (2). 1Cox's Ceilloch Merlot by Cushatlaw, far more settled in this class, this teenager just needs more miles on the clock I feel. 2 White's Floyds Diamond Geezer, a good type of dog with many breed attributes. He's very sound on the move, handler just needs to persevere and gain experience to bring out the best in him.

Limit Dog (5,2). 1 Valger Quorum JW, a real powerhouse in a neat and tidy short compact package. Stood up, his outline really appeals for type as he's very GSP throughout. Has moderation and balance, and was presented in fit condition. Going around his side gait is impressive, which edged him ahead of 2 Staley's Keigame Chilli Bean at Jomeel, who is stronger headed, also masculine all through, and stands on good feet. Another presenting a typical outline and presented in fit condition. 3 Milligan's Jessophia's Oberyn Martell.

Open Dog (7,5). **1 Brown & Burns' Sh Ch Magregor Threesacrowd at Pothouse JW ShCM**. Now here was the cream that rose to the top today. This dog was bang on form, presented in absolutely immaculate condition and simply couldn't be denied. For me he is the picture of a GSP, with a short, clean, moderate outline and correct balance all through. His head is undoubtedly masculine; clean eyes, neat ears. His neck strong and shoulders well laid which gives that beautifully clean junction of neck into shoulder. Well developed in brisket and ribbing, short in loin and with a correctly set on tail. His hind angles equally compliment his forehand and thus produce a sound, accurate action away and back, and around. He is in the fittest of condition and is shrouded in a correct short harsh coat. His handler does a grand job in piloting him quietly and unobtrusively, and I was pleased to award him *BIS.* **2 Pearson's Lawdyhawke Sultan**. A smaller frame on this male, quite different to 1 in many aspects, but here we have another fit male, who showed well and was in hard condition. Tending to lean on the stack today.

Veteran Dog (2,1). **1 Ellis' Sh Ch Indijazz Originale at Soellis**. A grand chap, just into veteran and presented very well indeed. Good eyes and ears, strong in topline and a well set on tail, he is balanced in his angles which showed in his lithe sound movement.

Minor Puppy Bitch (5,1). **1 Cushatlaw Charisma**. What an exciting young baby! A well balanced, typical, neat feminine package, she has it all going for her, and this precocious youngster is already very sound and together. Pretty headed, balanced, symmetrical and sound throughout, she was just a star today and gave it her all. Really nicely handled to get the best from her, she went around so confidently and positively, *BPIS* was hers today, I wish her well for a very successful future. **2 Pearson's Ladyhawke Dizzy Miss Lizzy**, who for me was quite similar all through and similar remarks apply. Another one who will no doubt go on to do well in the future. **3 Sielski's Orchidstar Tootie Fruitie**.

Puppy Bitch (3). 1 Pearson's Ladyhawke Dizzy Miss Lizzy. 2 Godber's Yum Minstrel. This bitch is very nice and of good type. She's new to the job and needs more miles on the clock but that will come in time. She's in fit order, soundly made and moved out with great composure. Her handler did a good job and with more experience this pairing should go on to do rather nicely. 3 Bowman's Borland Mill Aika.

Junior Bitch (4,1). 1 Ellis' Soellis Fannie Annie JW. I was really taken with this young bitch, so much so that in this illustrious company she came out on top with *RBIS & BOS*! In outline she's very GSP, has balance in her construction, and added to this possesses great attitude showmanship which adds to the appeal. Head and expression appeal. Strong neck and well laid shoulders, and a good length of upper arm are all used to advantage on the move. She's strong in her topline, ribs extend well back and she's so soundly and strongly made behind too. Really drives off from her low hocks and covers the ground going around. A good coat too. I'm sure she will make up with ease, good luck! 2 Godber's Yum Minstrel. 3 Nixon's Quintana Qiao.

Yearling Bitch (3,1). 1 Milligan's Isara Kurzhaar All Spice. A shade too long in body for me, but this bitch has a good strong topline, is well ribbed back and stands on good feet. In fit order, she moved out with a very active action. 2 Nixon's Quintana Cloud Berry, presented in good order, here was another who showed with the confidence one would expect, demonstrating a sound and steady temperament.

Novice Bitch (2). **1 Scoreby's Swinsty Dawn Runner**. This bitch appealed to me in head and forehand, two departments where she really excels. Her feminine head shape is correct and balanced giving her a really typical outlook. Front angles are excellent, and she uses them to advantage on the move. Just back from a recent litter I understand, she was presented in super nick – well done for getting her back on form! **2 Pearson's Ladyhawke Dizzy Miss Lizzy**.

Post Graduate Bitch (2). 1 Scorbey's Swinsty Dawn Runner. 2 Thompson's Redmires Bedazzled. Not the head nor shoulders of the winner, however her shorter outline did appeal. Stands on neat feet and moves around confidently.

Limit Bitch (5,3). 1 Sielski's Orchidstar Xtra O'Live JW. Smart type of bitch, liked her clean outline and moderate angles throughout. Clearly afforded a lot of exercise as she is presented in rock hard condition, and stands on neat, tight feet. Would just prefer her a shade shorter in the body. 2 Staley's Jomeel Kissantell, a short coarse coat on this bitch, but she needs to tighten up in her pasterns.

Open Bitch (11,2). This was a grand class, what a pleasure to judge so many good dogs – it took some separating – thank you for allowing me the pleasure. The ultimate winner was the impressively sound, composed and typical **1 Thurm's Sh Ch Valger Odette** who ticked all the boxes for me. She is fully mature, beautifully constructed, and the finished article with maturity in body and composure in action which just edged her ahead of 2 the very beautiful **2 Harris' Sh Ch Barleyarch Playtime**; along with the sound and typical **3 Cox's Cushatlaw Irresistable**, these three bitches really impressed me on the day. It was only the final go around which separated them in a near-hair-splitting decision. Each of the three possess so many breed attributes; type, sound construction, moderation and balance throughout, and sound positive action from all angles. In the end Odette emerged victorious and ended the day as my **RBB**.

Field Trial Bitch (2,1). **1 Nixon's Quintana Hollie Berry**. Always nice to see representation in this class, especially in this wonderfully dual-purpose breed. This bitch is feminine headed, and as you would expect is in first class condition with not an ounce of extra weight. Well-handled and positive in her action going around.