CRITIQUE - LEEDS & DISTRICT CANINE ASSOCIATION Judge: Mr F Kane

A very good entry of one of my favourite breeds. I thought the two junior classes were very strong and several of them will be going on to good things in the future. Open bitch class was closely contested. However, I was struck by the number of exhibits which were tending toward over angulation in their hindquarters, their over long second thigh and long rear pasterns producing wide rear action and lacking drive. I hope the GSP does not go up this route which has affected many other breeds. Many thanks to my stewards.

Puppy Dog (5,1). Mixed for age and size. 1 Mann's Sparkenhoe Kith And Kin. 6 months, baby of the bunch but the best for conformation and movement. He needs to grow on and fill out, but he is full of type and full of promise. 2 Brown's Montalba Mister Teatime. 9 months, more forward in body and he is a good shape, but his pasterns could be better and this shows in his front action. Good coat. A little short in muzzle for balance. 3 Wetton & Morris' Kavacanne Bolt From The Blue.

Junior Dog (6). 1 Sielski's Orchidstar Bolts Of Speed. 15 months, lovely young dog full of type and absolutely balanced all through. Didn't disappoint on the move. Masculine, quality head and expression. Should have a good future and pressed hard in the challenge. 2 Milligan's Greyelf Taelaros. 14 months, similar type but I preferred ribcage of the winner, but this should mature. Quality head and eye. Good mover. 3 Collins' Barleyarch Hoopla at Forestpoint (AX2).

Post Graduate Dog (4). 1 Pocock's Fayemm Sea The Stars. 2 years liver dog, comfortable winner of this class, correct for size, well angulated and went well. I would prefer a little more prominence on his eyebrows to finish his head but excellent type and balance. In superb condition. 2 Scott's Solwaypoint Indiana. 2 years, quality dog full of type in his proportions, coat, bone and with good quarters. Good chest. Not as positive on the move as the winner whose length of muzzle I preferred. 3 Schoneville's Balvenie Double Diamond JW.

Limit Dog (5). 1 Pingault's Taftazini Aiden Abbett. 4 years liver, easy winner of this class. Well-made and well balanced and a very good forehand and adequate rear angulation. Correct for bone and feet and coat and with a quality, balanced head with good eye. Sound and scopey on the move. Full of breed type and won the CC. 2 Pocock's Fayemm Sea The Stars. 3 Smith's Winterwell Maida Stone.

Open Dog (7,1). 1 Thurm's Sh Ch Bryburn Bacchus JW ShCM ShCEx. Athletic and great profile action. Excellent type throughout. I would prefer a little more muscle tone. Quality head, and muzzle of good length. Rear action rather wide and not doing his best on the day. RDCC. 2 Sielski's Orchidstar Bonds Of Speed. 4 years, slightly heavier in type. Very smooth mover. I liked his head and eye. In super condition. Quality dog. 3 Mann's Valger Ragnar JW.

Special Beginners Dog or Bitch (3,1). 1 Pocock's Fayemm Sea The Stars. 2 Scoreby's Earswick Dalby Runner. 2 years, feminine bitch who could have a little more strength in foreface. Good head and rib and coat. A little narrow in rear action.

Puppy Bitch (7). 1 Filby & Brown's Winterwell Thatlldo for Desjiem. 11 months, stood out here, at the lower end of the standard for size but lovely type and balance and gained in confidence as the class progressed. Excellent head, ribcage, coat, bone and feet. Carried herself well. Just needing a touch more confidence but a standout in the puppies on the day. Should do well. Best Puppy. 2 Schoneville's Balvenie Eye Candy. 7 months, slightly bigger but full of type. Lovely type in head and eye, excellent bone. Well-made and uses her conformation on the move. Not as firm in topline as winner whose eye I preferred on the day. Full of promise. 3 Read's Keigame Signe.

Junior Bitch (6,1). Good class for depth of quality. 1 Rose's Barleyarch Shindig with Kavacanne. 16 months, took the eye for her balance, short back and clean outline. Feminine head of good length. I would prefer just a little more finish of lip. Good angulation. Strides out well. Good hocks and rear angulation. 2 Hammond's Seasham I Love To Boogie. 16 months slightly heavier in type. Lovely movement and good head. She is a touch heavier in type but retains her femininity. She should have a good future. Close decision. Another to watch. 3 Ellis' Soellis Fancy Nancy.

Post Graduate Bitch (15,2). 1 Harris' Barleyarch Pakora. 2 years, of lovely type, carrying maximum body on here. Good coat, accurate on the move. Eye just a little full. Carried herself well. Unexaggerated breed type. 2 Lockett's Fayemm Forever Together. 2 years. Short backed bitch who carried herself well. Good head and eye. I preferred feet of the winner who was a little cleaner in front action. 3 Joy's Solwaypoint Georgia at Mannlicher.

Limit Bitch (10,2). Close decision with the first two both very good bitches. 1 Sielski's Orchidstar Jenga. 2 years, short backed, balanced and a great mover. Excellent coat. Scored in her chest and front action here. Great style on the move. I would prefer a little more fallaway in croup, but she is a top class bitch. 2 Delaney's Archerpoint Sea The Stars at Redmires. Loved her outline and balance and I slightly preferred her leg length to the winner. Correct in croup and a lovely head. Lighter in bone than the winner and not quite as finished in chest which showed in her front action. But I liked her a lot. 3 Staley's Jomeel Naughtylicious.

Open Bitch (12,2). Good class. 1 Mervyn's Ir Sh Ch Tomanipoint Annie's Mazurka Jun Ch. 4 years, beautiful type and she is the correct shape for the breed with a short back and every part balanced and resulting in a lovely outline. Great profile action. Can go a little wide in her front action but she scored in her finish and front angulation to win this. Drives well from her hocks. Quality all through. CC & BOB and group shortlist. 2 Elrington's Barleyarch Dorito at Tequesta. 3 years, another of lovely type, feminine and without exaggeration. Not the front stride of the winner but a clean front. Good coat and feminine head. Accurate movement. I just preferred flow of outline and bone of winner. RCC. 3 Rumney's Sh Ch Kacela Sweet Ayana. Liked this bitch enormously but not carrying herself well on the day.

Veteran Bitch (3). Three excellent ones. 1 Thurm's Sh Ch Valger Odette VW. 9 years old, best mover with her reach and drive. Feminine head and good coat. A touch long for balance but one of the best movers of the day. BV and Veteran Group 2. 2 Cox's Sh Ch Cushatlaw Irresistable JW ShCM. Scored in her balance over the winner bust she was not as firm in her front action. Beautiful head and eye. 3 Drew's Sh Ch Cushatlaw Illustrious JW.