

Driffield Agricultural Society Championship Dog Show 2017  
Flatcoated Retriever

I would like to thank the committee of Driffield Agricultural Society for inviting me to judge at their championship show, giving CC's for the first time. I have to say it was a baptism of mud, conditions were fairly dire, and given this, coat and feet didn't play too great a part, well done to you all for presenting your dogs so cleanly on such a day. It certainly made for the dog on the day, some coped well, some not so well in the mud, hind movement in particular suffered as a result. However, I was thrilled with my entry, thank you all. The post graduate and open classes were full of quality, I was splitting hairs in both the dogs and bitches, difficult decisions had to be made. I was very happy with my top places, all of which fitted my interpretation of the breed standard.

MPD(2)

1. Whitaker's Ace of Spades Black Brianta (Imp) I liked this 6 months old puppy, he shows a lot of promise. He has a lovely head with a kind, dark eye, good balance and angulation front and rear, he moved well for one so young.
2. Watson's Rainesgift Urban Myth, at the moment a rangier puppy than 1, he needs time to come together, he has a lovely head with good length to his muzzle, well made all through, but is slightly up on his hindquarters, that coupled with giving his handler a hard time made his movement a tad erratic.

PD(4)

Plummer & McPherson's Lochander Bhuachaille, a 10 months old puppy with lots to like, he has a lovely masculine head, good reach of neck into excellent forehand construction with defined brisket and depth of body for his age, excellent bone, he moved very well when settled, a little proud of his tail at times which cost him in the bpib challenge, but a lovely boy, will watch his progress with interest. BPD

2. Youens' Riverglide Black Frankel, a shade longer in body and loin than 1, he is another who needs time to develop, he is well constructed with a good topline and tailset, he moved well, I just preferred the balance of the winner.

3. Bennison's Riverglide Hurrigan Fly

JD(10,2)

1. Salt's Toccata of Harlaston with Wetnoses, this dog has a typical male head, good reach of neck into well placed shoulders, good depth of body, a strong loin, he used his quarters well to absolutely power round the ring which won him the class.

2. Joyce's Stranfaer Get Over It, this dog presented a lovely picture, both standing and on the move, he has good quality bone, correct angulation front and rear, he held his topline on the move, but didn't quite have the driving action of 1 today.

3. Matthews Ollersett Black Knight

YD(15,5) A lovely class headed by two very promising young dogs.

1. Savory's Hopevalley Morning Arizona, a beautifully presented, well balanced young dog with a classical, well moulded head, kind, dark eye, correct length of muzzle, neat ears, he has a good reach of neck into well laid shoulders and corresponding length of upper arm, he has a level topline with correct tailset. He has corresponding excellent hind angulation and strides out well, excelling in hind movement.

2. Ross' Go With the Flow Ebony in Harmony at Qlocontrail(ImpNLD), another lovely young dog, similar remarks apply, he has plenty of breed type, well balanced and very sound on the move, unlucky to meet the first dog in such good form.

3. Huyton's Hopevalley Morning Oregon for Hightyne

PGD(12,2)

1. Cooves' Draketor Sea Shanty, a young dog full of quality and promise. He has the most classical of heads with a soft expression, adequate reach of neck into super forehand construction, good brisket, he has balanced depth and length through his body, a strong loin, and with well muscled hindquarters

he powered round the ring with drive and style.

2. Reynolds & Sawyer's Wiccanssage Hugo's Dream JW. I have admired this dog from the ringside and was not disappointed, he too has a most beautiful head and expression, is so well balanced and full of breed type. Super angulation front and rear with a strong, short loin give him the ability to move well, although today I feel he was just a little lacking in sparkle which in such good company cost him the class.

3. Enticknap's Bochilbarley Ballabriggs with Tessera  
LD(11,3)

1. Laird's Seaheart Archibald of Daicheil ShCM, this dog took my eye in this class, he flowed, at one with his handler, and presented a lovely outline standing. Medium sized, he has a good male head, a clean neck into a well made front with corresponding good rear angulation. He is so sound on the move, maintaining a level topline and tailset and covered the ground with ease.

2. Stewart & Holmes' Candidacasa Dirty Dancing, another well made dog who excelled in movement on the day, he has a good masculine head, dark eye, is well balanced throughout, and with good angulation he moved with drive.

3. Davis' Pajanbeck Rumour Has It

OD(15,5) What a class, it was a privilege to judge

1. Douglas' Sh Ch Greenbayhill Black Tuxedo, I have always admired this dog, he is now at full maturity and just flows from head to tail. He has a classical, one piece head, a good, clean reach of neck into excellent forehand construction, pronounced brisket, good length through his body into strong, well angulated hindquarters which he uses to advantage on the move, with great reach and drive. Today was his day, he was shown and handled so well. In my opinion he is an excellent example of the breed and I was delighted to award him the DCC and in the challenge BOB, and was even more delighted to see him shortlisted in the group.

2. Egginton's Ch Glendaruel Sea the Stars with Pajanbeck (ai), another cracking dog, more workmanlike than 1, again so well balanced, he has a classical male head with the kindest of dark eyes, good reach of neck, excellent construction throughout, he has superb hind movement, giving him great action, I just preferred the overall elegance of 1, but this dog thoroughly deserved the RCC.

3. Laird's Sh Ch Branchalwood Tamdhu of Daicheil JW Sh CM  
GCD(6)

1. Gale's Willowswind Whispering Elm ShCM, this dog gets better with age, he stormed round the ring with style to win this class. He has a lovely, moulded head, is well constructed throughout and was shown in excellent coat and condition.

2. Huyton's Hopevalley Morning Oregon for Hightyne, this upstanding young dog was third in a good yearling class, he has a good male head, well off for bone with good depth throughout, he is in good hard condition and moved out well in this class.

3. Romeo-Dieste's Hopevalley Morning Mayhem JW ShCM  
MPB(4)

1. Henesey's Caci's Flirty Gertie Wrensmead, what a sweetheart, so much to like about her, she has a beautiful feminine head with lovely dark eye, good length of muzzle, excellent reach of neck, she is well angulated front and rear, all in proportion, this complete with an excellent topline and tailset means she presents a lovely picture moving straight and true with such accurate footfall for one so young. All of this gave her the edge on the day to take BPB and BPIB.

2. Clarke's Wistaston Sika's Skye, slightly smaller than 1, she too has a very pretty head, is soundly constructed, although not quite the length in body as the winner, she has a strong loin with corresponding good hind action, she was a little timid initially, but soon got it together to gain her place.

3. Watson's Rainesgift Heaven Forbid  
PB(3,1)

1. Henesey's Flirty Gertie Wrensmead

2. Nelson's Cuillinoir Lunedale at Byways, a very promising young bitch with a pleasing outline, she has a feminine head with lovely expression, is well proportioned throughout and has correct

corresponding angulation front and rear, today I just preferred the accuracy of movement of 1.

3. Jury's The Show Must Go On at Torwood

JB(8,1)

1. Ashcroft & Long's Stranfaer Take It Easy to Keeperway, an immaculately presented girl, well balanced, she has a beautiful, well moulded head with the sweetest expression, excellent bone for her size, good front and rear construction and moved really well, with great forward reach in profile.

2. Huyton's Gladpenny Kiss From a Rose by Hightyne, a shade longer in body than 1, but still in proportion, this girl is feminine all through and is well put together. She was shown well and came alive on the move, which she did with ease.

3. King's Kingsisla Rathsaier

YB(12,3)

1. Gale's Willowswind Nette Lark JW, this young bitch, although having left her coat at home, could not be denied this class given her movement which is so sound both coming and going, and excels in profile with great reach and drive, coming from her well made and well muscled hindquarters with complementary forehand construction. She has a pretty, feminine head to complete the picture.

2. Williams & Goodwin's Wistaston Another Love JW, another quality young bitch, similar remarks apply, she is feminine all through, presents a lovely outline and is pleasing on the move, however today she did not quite match the verve of 1

3. Best's Yonsaff Isadorable

PGB(22,5) A fabulously difficult class.

1. Kulczycka's Seaheart Bronte of Everblack, an ultra feminine bitch, having a good head with a soft expression, she has a clean reach of neck into correct shoulders with good length of upper arm. She has good length and depth to her body with well angulated quarters. What impressed me was how light she was on her feet given the conditions, she moved with such ease and style to take this super class.

2. Joyce's Stranfaer Solitaire JW, unlucky to meet 1 today, she has everything to like in a bitch from her classical head to her well set on tail, with everything in between being correctly proportioned and constructed. Although she moved well, she didn't match 1 today.

3. Gilchrist's Seaheart Bryony with Ardmhor

LB(16,4)

1. Barnett's Pajanbeck Welcum to my World, I have always liked this workmanlike bitch, she is such a sound, honest girl, nothing overdone, she presents a pleasing, balanced outline. She has a pretty head with kind, dark eye, a good reach of neck into good front construction, she holds a level topline and with her well muscled quarters she moved with drive, at one with her handler.

2. Richards Luss Kiss in the Dark, I really liked this bitch, a lovely outline both standing and moving, again so soundly put together which showed in her movement reaching out and with drive, close up to 1.

3. Walker's Lizzlog Annie Get Your Gun JW

OB(18,7) What a class again, so full of quality.

1. Goodman's Keepersway Gracie to Beanit JW, an elegant quality bitch, with all the attributes, particularly in movement, that I was looking for. She has a beautiful, classical head, almond shaped dark eye with correct fill in, a clean reach of neck flowing into a super layback of shoulder, with good length and return of upper arm. A well defined brisket, gradual spring of rib, her well muscled and angulated quarters allowed her to move effortlessly, true fore and aft, and excellent in profile, her freedom of movement is so impressive, she could not be denied the BCC, and it was my pleasure to award it, her first, I'm sure the others will soon follow.

2. Hennessy & Ostman's Sh Ch & Ir Sh Ch Caci's Posh and Sassy at Wrensmead, another girl out of the top drawer, she excels in breed type, a beautiful head and eye, excellent front and rear construction with correct bend of stifle. She holds a level topline and uses her tail well on the move to present a very pleasing picture. Today she didn't quite get into her stride as well in the class as 1, but then really moved out well in the challenge to take the RCC.

3. Jones' Sh Ch Seaheart Anneliese by Benvellyn

GCB(3)

1. Goulette's Annbecks Brenna at Bobbinmill, a close decision between these two bitches, this girl is maturing nicely along all the right lines, she is well balanced with a lovely head and expression, level topline and tailset, she moved soundly to take this class.

2. Romeo-Dieste's Yonsaff Vienna by Hopevalley JW, smaller than 1, feminine throughout, she too has a lovely head and eye, is well constructed, she moved well at one with her handler, I just preferred the overall outline and balance of 1.

3. Bowen's Clandrifft Midnight Galaxy

Helen Fox