

The Flatcoated Retriever Society Open Show 10th June 2017

Judge: Mrs Melanie Salt (Wetnoses)

Firstly I would like to thank the Society for giving me this wonderful opportunity to judge the breed I truly adore, at their annual Open Show. I had a most enjoyable day at this very well run show with a great atmosphere. I am still enjoying the pretty floral arrangement I was given to take home. Thank you to my stewards Tamsin, Caroline and Jan for keeping everything running smoothly, my co Judge Antony Allen and to all the exhibitors, and their beautiful dogs making such a quality entry.

I was looking for a balanced dog of medium size with a moulded one piece head, with the ability to do a day's work, but above all a happy outgoing boy. I have noticed recently from the ringside rear construction lacking in strength, but I am pleased to say today this did not apply to many of the exhibits. It was so nice to have a big ring, the dogs had plenty of space and could really get moving, which is something lacking at a lot of Open Shows these days. I was very pleased with my final line up and to see my Best Dog be awarded Best In Show, without hesitation from my Co Judge.

Special Veteran - 1

1st Hammersleys – Levelmoor Dr Devious For Nellspace

Nearly 11 year old black male. Stood alone, a larger cast boy with a dark eye, and good bone. Turned out in a glossy coat with great feathering. His age showed on the move, but he enjoyed his day out. It was lovely to see the special bond between dog and handler.

Veteran – 8 (1 Abs)

What a quality class.

1st Knights & Jacobs – Broomsward Hugo Boss By Gemswin ShCM

7½ year old black male. I love this boy and have done him well in the past, and he did not disappoint today. Masculine, balanced, medium sized with super moulded one piece head, with dark eye and small well set ears. He has depth of chest, good bone and tight feet. He has a gentle spring of rib and adequate turn of stifle. He is strong and well muscled. He did not disappoint on the move, taking advantage of the large ring. He moved with power and drive. A pleasure to award him Best Dog, Best Veteran Dog and in agreement with my Co Judge BEST IN SHOW and BEST VETERAN IN SHOW.

2nd Brooks – Culmquill Making Whoopee

9½ year old black male. I have admired this boy from the ringside for many years. He has a beautifully moulded head with soft smouldering expression – you can tell he loves to please. Good

bone with nice feet. A balanced boy with correct angulations. He moved freely with an ever wagging tail.

3rd Colsons – Windyhollows Brere Bear

Minor Puppy – 2

Two beautiful puppies at different stages of growth.

1st Youens - Riverglide Black Frankel

Just 6 months black male. Such a baby boy at his first show which he took all in his stride. Still very raw but showing a lot of promise. Lovely head with dark eye. Good reach of neck. He moved very steadily and with confidence for such a youngster and seemed to enjoy his time in the ring. I am really looking forward to see how he matures and progresses. I was very pleased to award him Best Puppy Dog and along with my Co judge BEST PUPPY IN SHOW.

2nd Malones – Kirkbeck The Man In Black

8½ month old black male. A promising puppy with a lovely head and soft expression. He has good bone and front, well turned out, just at an awkward growing stage today, which in time will settle.

Puppy – 2

1st Galleywood Prince Charming By Gemswin

10 month old black male. Balanced and stood beautifully with ever wagging tail. He had a glint of mischief in his eyes. Lovely moulded head. Good size for age, lovely rear angulations and turn of stifle. He held his top line on the move.

2nd Malones – Kirkbeck The Man In Black – (2nd Minor Puppy)

Junior – 8 (2 Abs)

What a hard class with lots of variation in size and growth stages, I am sure they will all swap places week in week out in the future.

1st Joyces – Stranfaer Get Over It

14 month black male. He is a smaller boy but very balanced and everything in the right place. Again another beautiful head with well set ears. Clean lines, tight feet and steady on the move.

2nd Dyrens – Calzeat Made by Sweden

12½ month black male. Taller than 1st with good bone. Well put together, moved ok would have liked to have seen him move a bit faster.

3rd Gardiner & Bambrooks – Jetstarski All Eyes On You At Svenjack

Yearling – 10 (2 Abs)

1st Reynolds – Wiccansage Hugos Dream JW

20 month old black male. Caught my eye on entering the ring, he had a real presence. My notes say 'gorgeous'. Medium sized boy, beautifully moulded head with dark eye of correct almond shape. Clean neck into well placed shoulders, correct angles front and rear. Good bone and gleaming flat coat with good feathering, a credit to his owner. He flowed around the ring at one with his handler. Pushed hard for Best Male, but I am sure his day will come – Reserve Best Male.

2nd Savorys – Hopevalley Morning Arizona

19 month black male. He was unlucky to come up against 1st today. A slightly larger male but in proportion. Loved his head and dark eye of correct shape, with his expression oozing fun. He covered the ground well when moving with drive around the ring.

3rd Hammersleys – Castlerock Magic Shadow

Novice – 7 (1 Abs, 2 Wd)

1st Joyces – Stranfaer Get Over It – (1st in Junior)

2nd Reynolds – Hoedun Malbec

5 year old black male. This lad has a finer head. He is slightly larger than 1st. Good depth of chest, in full coat. He is very workmanlike, he held his top line on the move, good tail action.

3rd Hamiltons – Misty Alpine Bhudda

Graduate – 4 (1 Abs)

1st Pingrees – Castlerock Burning Love to Heatheridge

2 year old black male. Good eye colour and shape. He is very racy. He has a strong neck flowing into well laid shoulders. Well boned, correct tail set. He moved around the ring with drive, holding his top line.

2nd Reynolds - Hoedun Malbec – (2nd in Novice)

3rd Hamiltons – Misty Alpine Bhudda

Post Graduate – 8 (2 Abs)

1st Foxs' – Black Mica's Likes It Hot At Blacktoft

3 year old black male. Lovely moulded one piece head with kind expression. Quality bone and feet. Shown in hard condition I could see this lad doing a day's work in the field. Well balanced with correct angulation. He owned the ring on the move – well handled.

2nd Jones' – Arminzeras Infomania by Benvellyn

4 year old black male. Classic moulded male head with lovely expression. Good bone and feet. Good rear angulation. Sound mover, a happy boy with an ever wagging tail.

3rd Ellis & Taylor-Ellis' – Capworth Corsair

Limit – 5 (1 Abs)

1st Walker & Roberts Gloi Dubh Fingal JW ShCM

3 year old black male. Classic outline, nothing overdone. Beautifully moulded one piece head with kind expression, correct almond shaped eye. Clean neck into well laid shoulders, correct spring of rib. He covered the ground well on the move, taking advantage of the big ring.

2nd Youens – Gloi Dubh Deveron At Riverglide.

4½ year black male. I judged this handsome chap when he was a puppy, how nice to see how he has grown and matured. Larger than 1st but nonetheless a well constructed boy. Showing clean lines throughout. Moved well.

3rd Davis' – Pajanbeck Rumour Has It

Open – 6 (1 Abs)

1st Lairds – Seaheart Archiblad Of Dalcheil

4½ year old black male. Medium sized dog, with lots to like. Classic moulded head, almond shaped eye with gentle expression. Good feet, soundly constructed and balanced standing and on the move. He pushed hard for top honours today.

2nd CH Candiliz Black Admiral For Clandrift JW ShCM

3 year old black male. Heavier build than 1st. Slightly broader head, dark eye. Well balanced with good bone and spring of rib. Moved soundly.

3rd Smithermans – Convellyn’s Artic Loon Of Seaheart JW (Imp CZ)

Special Open Liver Dog – 5 (1 Abs)

1st Jacobs & Holmes – Charming Melvin Oasis Of Peace (Imp CZ) JW

5 year old liver male. A stunning liver boy who stood out in this class. Gorgeous outline. Dripping in coat with lovely feathering. Larger cast male but everything in the right place. Moulded head with correct eye to coat colouring. Clean lines, good bone. Moved with purpose around the ring which he owned.

2nd Sullivan’s – Jarvo Jewel Of The Lake

6 year old liver male. Medium sized, sadly out of coat today. Nice head with tight eye of correct shape. A happy boy standing on tight feet, good angulations. On the move he did not let himself down moving around the ring with power and drive.

3rd Colsons – Windyhollows Brere Bear

Special Shooting Dog Certificate – 2

1st Foxs’ - Black Mica’s Likes It Hot At Blacktoft - (1st Post Graduate)

2nd Brights – Polgara A New Day At Midnight

4 year old black male. 4th in Post Graduate . A happy outgoing boy with lovely moulded one piece head and kind expression. Good bone and depth of chest, pleasing lines. Moved well at one with handler.