

Flatcoated Retriever Championship Show

22nd August 2021

For me an invitation to judge at our breed Championship is both an honour and a pleasure. Following over 18 months of lockdown where we all spend our time finding ways of keeping ourselves busy and no dog shows to attend, friends to chat to, new puppies to enter the ring for the first time and no new champions.

My thanks to the FCRS officers and committee for all their hard work prior to, during and afterwards to make this our breed show a pleasure to attend. It must have been difficult to plan a show with all the restrictions of Covid. My thanks to my hard working stewards but mainly to the exhibitors for allowing me to judge their bitches and for showing really good sportsmanship

I was looking for feminine bitches of medium size, free flowing but with drive and true to breed type and I found many typical of correct type and good quality. Movement has improved although many were short in upper arm affecting the free movement called for in the Standard.

My co-judge Rosemary Talbot and myself found it hard to choose between the dog and bitch for BOB as they both had many qualities but agreed that the dog was more mature. Congratulations to both the owners of BIS and RBIS.

Veteran Bitch 5 entries (1 abs)

1 Egginton's PAJANBECKS TEARS IN HEAVEN - How lovely to see this bitch looking so agile given her age - 8 years. Liked her head and expression, good dark eye and reach of neck down adequate shoulder placement. Level top line and correct tailset. Moderate bend of stifle. Showing a balanced outline. Moved well around the ring with drive

2 Youens BITCON BLACK CAVIER AT RIVERGLADE -another 8 year old with a feminine head with lovely expression, not quite the reach of neck as winner but good bone and lovely tight feet. Strong hindquarters and moderate bend of stifle. In good coat. Not quite the drive when moving as winner.

3 Bellamy's BOCHILBARLEY AURORA - younger than 1 & 2 . Smaller bitch but well balanced. Pleasing head and correct eye shape. Adequate shoulder placement, level topline and correct tailset. Hindquarters with moderate bend of stifle. Her coat was a little unruly today but she moved well

SPECIAL VETERAN BITCH 1 entry

1 Collins PAJANBECK WELCUM TO MY WORLD AT ANNBECKS - What a lady, whilst she may have been 11 years old she showed and moved her socks off. A pretty head, dark eye and lovely expression. Adequate shoulder placement down to neat feet. Level topline standing and on the move. Strong in hindquarters with moderate bend of stifle. Best Veteran in Show

MINOR PUPPY BITCH 3 entries (1 abs)

1 Stevenson's BLACKTOFT CARESS OF STEELRIVER - 6 month old who will need plenty of time. Pretty feminine head and soft expression, good reach of neck and level topline. Sufficient rear angulation Moved well when settled.BP

1 Reynolds & Jacobs - HOEDUN MISS ATOMIC BOMB - another baby who coped well in the ring. Liked her head and expression. Good reach of neck and level topline and when she relaxed was wagging her tail standing and moving.

PUPPY BITCH 3 entries (1 Abs)

1 Holmes RYDANANAH DEVILS IN THE DETAIL - bitch of medium size with a pretty head and soft expression, good reach of neck and adequate lay of shoulder. Level topline, correct tailset and moderate bend of stifle. Well balanced and moved well.

1 Whittell's CASTLEROCK WHEN YOU BELIEVE - A little larger than winner but a pleasing head and good reach of neck. Good tight feet, A little upright in upper arm but a nice level outline and correct tailset. Moved well when settled

3 Coleman's BROOKONEDEN FUDGE - a medium sized liver bitch who will need time to mature. She had a pleasing head with correct eye colour, level topline and well balanced well settled. She was rather erratic when moving but more training will help.

JUNIOR BITCH 6 entries

1 Jones' BENVELLYYN AMETHYST SUNBIRD - A mature well balanced bitch with many qualities. Well moulded head with dark almond eyes and lovely expression. Good reach of neck into well placed shoulders down to oval bone and tight feet. Balanced outline, correct tailset, strong hindquarters with moderate bend of stifle. In good coat. Moved with drive covering the ground.

2 Campbell's RONEVORG WHISPERING ANGEL - a medium sized bitch with a correct and pretty head, dark eyes and cheeky expression. Good reach of neck down to adequate lay of shoulder. Level topline and correct tailset. Liked her balanced outline. Moved well covering the ground. Not quite as good moving toward me as 1

3 Gogarty's PADEND JUST THE WAY YOU ARE - liked her head and expression. Good reach of neck, adequate lay of shoulder and level topline. A balanced outline when not flying her tail. Moved well

YEARLING BITCH - 5 entries (1 abs)

Hollands - FLATCHARM BIANCA DEL RIO - A mature well balanced bitch with many qualities. A typical head with good length of foreface, dark almond eye. Good reach of neck down to adequate lay of shoulder and muscular hindquarters. Well balanced standing and moving. She moved with drive covering the ground.

2 Walker's LIZZLOG FANNY BY GASLIGHT - Pleasing head, well moulded, eyes not quite the eye colour of winner. Well balanced outline, good oval bone down to neat feet. Correct tailset and moderate bend of stifle. Moved and shown well

Bellany's BOCHILBARLEY PUMPKIN SPICE WOTH MOONTORN - Smaller liver bitch with pleasing head, well balanced and was showing herself well. Waggy tail standing and on the move.

NOVICE BITCH 10 entries (3 abs)

Moxey's LUSSAC XPRESS YOURSELF AT DYMEXE (AI) - Caught my eye immediately. What a pretty girl. Elegant, correct size, balanced outline. Long well moulded head, almond dark eyes. Good forequarters, level topline and correct tailset. Strong hindquarters. Moved well when settled Should have a good future

2 Oxford's MATLARAS SPIRIT OF DUNKIRK FOR TARANBECK - A medium sized bitch with long head, dark eyes with nice expression. Good reach of neck down to adequate lay of shoulder. Level topline and correct tailset, strong hindquarters. Balanced throughout. Moved well

3 Caci's BORN TO BE MISS UNIVERSE (IMP SWEDEN) -well up to size. Pleasing head with ark eye and cheeky expression. Adequate lay of shoulder, level topline and moderate bend of stifle. Slightly heavier all through than 1 & 2. Moved well

GRADUATE BITCH 10 entries (1 abs)

1 Fox's BLACKTOFT DANCING THE BLUES - Loved her long, well moulded head, dark eyes and twinkling expression. Good reach of neck, well defined brisket, good lay of shoulder. Strong oval bone and tight feet. Level topline and moderate bend of stifle. Correct tailset. Well balanced throughout Moved well with drive. Should have a good future.

2 Eggington's PAJANBECK GEORGY GIRL - This bitch was a little heavier than winner but had a typical head, dark eyes and liked her expression. Good reach of neck, good forequarters, level topline, correct tailset and moderate bend of stifle. Moved well but not quite the drive than winner

3 Oxford's MATLARAS SPIRIT OF DUNKIRK FO TARANBECK

POST GRADUATE BITCH 15 entries (1 abs)

This was the strongest class of the day and sadly many had to go cardless

Phipps Baker & Baker - NEVER SAY NEVER OASIS OF PEACE (ATC AWO1900CZE) -

1 I Liked this lady for her overall quality. Nothing exaggerated with her. Looked a picture standing. Well moulded head with good length of foreface, dark oval eye, good forequarters, quality oval bone, lovely balanced outline, deep chest and length of rib cage, strong over the hindquarters. Well balanced overall and in good coat. She moved well around the ring holding her topline and with drive. Pleased to give her the BCC and RBIS

2 May's LUSSAC WINTER WITCH - I have always like this bitch from the ringside Medium size, more workmanlike. She has a typical head, long and well moulded, dark eyes and lovely

expression. Good reach of neck down to good shoulder placement. Neat tight feet. Balanced outline throughout. Correct tailset and strong hindquarters. Moved well with drive. Lacking in coat today

3 Warrington's BOCHILBARLEY HEAVEN SENT TO WOODAVENS (AI)

Really liked this bitch for her overall balance. Pretty head with length of foreface, dark eyes and neat ears. Good reach of neck and lay of shoulder. Lovely neat feet. Level topline, good tailset and moderate bend of stifle. Moved well but not quite the drive as 1 & 2.

MID LIMIT BITCH 2 entries

1 Colson's BLACKTOFT DANCING ON ICE WITH WINDYHOLLOWS (AI) -

Correct size bitch with long head, some infill and dark and expressive eyes. Good reach of neck down to adequate lay of shoulder. Good oval bone, level topline and correct tailset. Showing a well balanced outline standing and on the move. Moderate bend of stifle. Movement was showing freedom and drive

2 Ashcroft's GUNOAK SOLAR WIND - Similar size to 1. Liked her typical head, dark eyes and neat ear. Good reach of neck down to good shoulder placement. Good bone and tight feet. Balanced outline but not quite the rear angulation as 1. Moved well

LIMIT BITCH 7 entries

1 Romeo Dieste's HOPEVALLEY MORNING RAINBOW JW - I've watched this bitch since she first entered the show ring and she has continually improved over that time. Standing she presents a lovely balanced outline with a typical well moulded head, dark eye, neat ears and lovely expression. Lovely reach of neck, good brisket, strong bone and tight feet. Balanced outline into strong quarters. In good coat. It's when she moves that she shows that free flowing gait. She just dropped her topline in the challenge but pleased to award her the RBB

2 Jones' BLACKTOFT SAPPHIRE ICE AT BENVELLYN (AI) - a more substantial lady but loved her typical well moulded head, dark eyes and lovely expression. Good reach of neck down to neat feet Good front and hindquarter angulation. Balanced outline. Moved well with drive.

3 Burr's WOODFINCH RUBHA INNIS OF SCHEIN - a substantial bitch with a heavy coat. Pleasing head, dark eye and soft expression. Good reach of neck that could be seen if some coat had been trimmed. Good shoulder placement and tight feet. Level topline and strong hindquarters. Moved well

OPEN BITCH 8 entries

1 Walker's LIZZLOG BREWIN BETTIE JW - A bitch with qualities, Liked her typical well moulded head with length, dark eye and soft expression. Good reach of neck into good shoulder placement. Level topline and strong quarters, moderate bend of stifle. Well balanced throughout. In good coat. Moved and shown well

2 Eggington & Davis' PAJANBECK ANGELS ON MY SIDE TAF - Loved her head, well moulded head with length, good infill and neat ears. Not quite the shoulder placement than winner but strong in hindquarters. She certainly enjoyed showing and moved well with tail wagging.

Warrington's BOCHILBARLEY JASMINE BY WOODAVENS - a medium sized workmanlike bitch with pleasing head, good eye and expression. Good reach of neck down to adequate shoulder placement, neat feet. Level topline and correct tailset. Strong hindquarters and moderate bend of stifle. Moved well covering the ground. Not in best of coat today.

FIELD TRIAL BITCH no entries

SPECIAL OPEN LIVER BITCH 1 entry

1 Bellamy's BOCHILBARLEY PUMPKIN SPICE BY WINDYHOLLOWS (AI)

SDC 1 ENTRY

1 Hewison's DONASCLIMENTO DANILO FROM CASBLAIDD SGWC - Lovely medium sized bitch 8 years old. A typical head, dark eyes and soft expression. Good reach of neck down to good shoulder angulation bone and tight feet. Level topline and strong well angulated hindquarters and moderate bend of stifle. She moved with drive and power