Flatcoated Retriever Society 12.06.22

Special Award Classes

I would like to thank Louise Jones and Victoria Goldberg for the invitation to judge the special classes at this lovely open show. A big thank you to Stewards Harry Nelson and Louise for ensuring my ring ran very smoothly. Finally a big thank you to the exhibitors for their entries.

Special Award Puppy Dog or Bitch 10 (3 abs)

A lovely class of very promising puppies.

1st Colson’s Windyhollows Ragged Robin
This 6 month old boy took my eye as soon as I saw him. Although he was really giving his owner a hard time he settled at the end to take the class. This boy has a lovely one piece head with a melting expression. Ears well set but I would prefer a shade smaller. He has a good length of neck into well laid shoulders. Plenty of bone standing on nice tight feet. Good depth of chest for one so young. Gradual spring of rib and a short square loin. Moderate bend of stifle of the correct length and is straight from hock to floor. Correct tail set carried well on the move. Dense coat of super quality. On the move this boy really comes into himself with accurate movement straight and true coming and going. In profile he moves with the correct reach and drive and full of balance. I look forward to following this pup’s career.

2nd Smitherman’s Seaheart Diva
Another promising puppy 6 months of age. She has a really pretty head with a kind dark eye. Good length into well laid shoulders and even return of upper arm. Adequate bone straight legs and standing on nice tight feet. Good depth of chest, gradual spring of rib and she has a short square loin. Well made rear quarters with a moderate bend of stifle and well let down hocks. Her rear pasterns are straight from hock to floor. I’d prefer a slightly lesser slope to the croup making the outline flow that touch bit more. Moved very soundly just didn’t match the drive and balance of the winner today.

3rd Milton’s Manteauplat Montbazillac

Special Award Graduate Dog or Bitch 8

1st Romeo-Dieste’s Hopevalley Morning Wicked
I have admired this bitch from ringside and just loved her today, she has such a pleasing outline. Pretty bitch of only 20 months with a kind dark eye and ears small and well set. Good length of neck into well laid shoulders. Adequate bone standing on nice tight feet. Longer cast bitch but her length comes from her ribcage. Good depth of chest and short square loin. Nicely made rear quarters a touch long in the 2nd thigh but this does not distract from the outline. Rear pasterns are straight from hock to floor. Coat is of excellent quality and featherings coming through nicely. She moved very soundly with even reach and drive to win her this lovely class. Another I will watch she must have a bright future.

2nd Groom’s Little Roe Maud of Piethorn
Shorter cast than 1 but presents another beautiful picture with nothing over done and beautifully balanced. Feminine bitch with a dark almond eye and small ears correctly set. I would prefer a little more length to her neck, but her shoulders were laid correctly and she has the even return of upper arm. Adequate bone legs straight standing on tight feet. Good depth of chest, gradual spring of rib and short square loin. She has a beautifully made hind quarters, moderate bend of stiffe and well let down hocks placed correctly just behind the base of the tail. Level topline held at all times, she moved cleanly towards and away. Just missed out as not in her best jacket today.

3rd Gardiner’s Bitcon Taylor Made for Svenjak

Special Award Open Dog or Bitch 6

1st Fox’s Satinbaze Cracksman for Blacktoft JW (ai)
Masculine dog of the correct size who is really maturing nicely. Another who is not over done or exaggerated in any way. Lovely head and expression, small ears well set. A real workmanlike boy. Good lay of shoulder and even upper arm. Good depth of chest. Gradual spring of rib and short square loin. Excellent rear angulation which allowed him to really drive round the ring, well let down hocks straight rear pasterns from hock to floor. Straight and true going and coming. Coat dense of good quality however could be flatter towards the back. He moved very soundly at all times. I look forward to seeing this dog fully mature.

2nd Branscombe’s Torinmill Gaelic Aurora KCWGC
7 year old no nonsense bitch who is very pleasing to the eye and completely belies her age. She is not over done in anyway Good length of neck into a well placed shoulders. Ample bone standing on nice tight feet. Good depth of chest and gradual spring of rib. Well made rear quarters however i would prefer a slight more bend to the stifle. Level topline which was held solidly on the move. Very tidy moving away and coming towards. Handled to her advantage allowing her to drive round the ring with complete balance. Lighter coat than 1 but it was of good quality and dense. Overall a really lovely bitch.

3rd Smitherman’s & Robert’s Seaheart Crian at Gloi JW

Abby Bellamy
Moontorn