

## IRISH WOLFHOUND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPSHOW.3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2015.

A once in a lifetime appointment, I was very honoured to judge at this prestigious show, the committee made it a memorable occasion. Many thanks to my ultra efficient stewards, John Sharpe, my daughter Dawn Scott and great friend Annie (whippet) Snelgrove and Show Manager Noel Box for keeping things running smoothly.

The puppy classes were a joy, some beautiful puppies of great breed type and effortless movement, bodes well for the future. Happily there were no misplaced lower canines in the entry, and although one or two were a little tight, certainly nothing of concern in this respect. There were however quite a few exhibits with small "peggy" teeth.

From a lovely entry of 108 dogs, sadly there were 44 absentees.

I was looking for a real hound, curvy, substantial and with the ability to extend in front and drive from behind, my main winners possessed all these attributes, and could hopefully do the job they were designed for.

MPD.(7,3 abs) 1. BPIS, Tebbutt's Caredig Barbarian, a stunning 9 month beautifully balanced pup from all angles. Masculine head with dark well shaped eyes and well held ears, really good width of jaw and large strong teeth. Reachy neck into well laid shoulders, lovely return of upper arm, deep brisket and well ribbed back, excellent topline with correctly placed rise over a strong loin, balanced angulation both ends, a powerful sound mover, with a free ground covering gait. A very exciting prospect, I loved him. Type cup winner.

2.Turini Salaman's Kingarra Della Bassa Pavese. Another beautiful puppy, a really hard decision between these two. Half brother to the winner, he also stands over a lot of ground, lovely make and shape, sweet head and kind expression, excellent neck and forehand, good ribbing and topline, curvy quarters, hard pushed to choose between these two beauties. Free sound movement with lovely extension, just thought 1 had the edge in strength of hindquarters.

3. Ashby's Ashgroave Burleigh Bowdley.

PD.(2) 1.Fox's Kazachoc Roan Inish at Newdigate, substantial well grown light brindle, masculine head, kind dark eye and neat ears, good overall proportions and balanced angulation both ends. Good width and depth of brisket, slightly knuckling over in front at present, but good width across hindquarters and through the stifle and hock. Sound on the move.

2. Colbert's Nanu Nana von den Erzminen, another well grown pup, not quite the substance of 1. A little straight at both ends at present, he needs to drop into his frame. Dark eyes and neat ears, reasonable shoulder placement but a little short in upper arm which restricts his front extension. Well ribbed back, decent croup, would like to see more width and angulation through the stifles, lacks power on the move at present.

JD. (3,1) 1. Dawson's Stonestorm Apache of Shalico, 15 month old who presented a balanced outline when standing. His head needs to break, a little narrow at present with a pronounced stop and slightly flat ears, plenty of time to improve. Good neck into well laid shoulder and upper arm, nicely ribbed back, correct croup and tail carriage, balanced angulation both ends. Extended on the move in profile, still some work to do "up and down".

2. Bevis' Wolfhouse Adagio, well grown at 14 months, attractive hound with most lovely head and expression, dark eyes and small neat ears. Decent forehand and well ribbed back, his croup is rather steep at present which affects his tail carriage, needs to drop into his hind quarters, currently a little straight, but this should improve with age and maturity.

YD. (3,1) 1. Tebbutt's Caredig Caredog, very masculine powerful hound, another half brother to BP, but a slightly different type. Strong head, good neck into well laid shoulders, good forechest and return of upper arm, ribbing ok, a tad long in loin and rise starts a little early. Great width of stifle and pelvis, great feet and well muscled, this dog just oozes power on the move, sound and with lovely extension.

2. Poole and Sheppard's Conmeryl Marksman with Goldswift, a different type altogether. Sweet head and dark eyes giving a kind expression, good reach of neck into decent forehand, good ribbing, not the power in his quarters, and rather proud of his tail, sound on the move.

ND (3) Gregory's Killoughery the Baron, medium sized hound of balanced proportions, neat ears, good neck and fair shoulder, good ribbing and correct rise over the loin. A little short in upper arm which restricts his forehand extension, sound on the move.

2. W Adagio.

PG D.(9, 4) 1. Vaudin's Fearghas Really Irish in Torteval, rather old fashioned workmanlike hound, appealing head and lovely calm expression. Well laid shoulder and upper arm wraps neatly round the ribcage, giving the much desired "inverted egg" view from the front. Touch long in loin, excellent feet, free and sound on the move.

2. Wilkes Strickenoak Clanrickarde ShCM, appealing hound of different type, masculine head, good eye shape and colour, well laid shoulder, tad short in upper arm, nicely balanced all through, sound on the move, but not quite the freedom of 1.

3. Jones Conmeryl Montgomery.

Mid L D (5,3) 1. Bogart's Nellwyn's Mr Ozymandias, upstanding attractive hound, no doubting he is all male. Masculine head with good planes, decent neck and shoulder, although upper arm could be a tad longer. Good length and depth of ribbing, a little flat in topline, sound but not extending on the move.

2. Canavan's Laoiseach Cariad Ruairi, one that has caught my eye in the past for his lovely shape, balance and free ground covering movement. He is now rising 6 years old, and dipping a little in topline, but still an attractive hound with lots to like.

LD ((5,3) 1. Addington's Harropine Dermot O'Leary of Wolvebrigg. Tall r/br ,maturing nicely. Attractive head and expression, neat ears , decent neck and reasonable forehand, ribbing ok, touch long in loin, still to drop into his hind quarters, in good muscular condition and sound on the move.

2. Chichvarkina's Barachois One in a Million, standing I thought he would be my winner , he presents an attractive package, has a masculine head and good expression helped by neat ears. Nice shape all through, unfortunately shows no enthusiasm on the move, appears a little soft in condition and lots of soft floating coat doesn't really help to give an impression of power.

OD.(4) Spoiled for choice between two hounds that stood out here, different types but both of great quality and both beautifully presented.

1.CC,RBIS,Goodson's Ch Moralach the Gambling Man, masculine hound of lovely proportions and great quality, in hard muscular condition. Attractive masculine head and kind expression, great forehand and ribbing , flows into a correct topline with an underline to match. Powerful quarters with great width of pelvis, correct hind angulation and excellent feet. He flows under the hand, each part fitting seamlessly into the next. Shapely and powerful on the move, it was the great power of his hindquarters which gave him the edge. Puts me in mind of the great Ch Ballyphelan Bran Beag.

2. RCC, Turini Salamon's ITA/ EUR Ch Donnerhall Della Bassa Pavese, another beautiful hound with eye catching curves and great outline, standing I thought he would be my winner, exactly the shape I admire, just oozes quality. Lovely headpiece, flowing neck and shoulder, good forechest and excellent ribbing, curvy quarters. Lovely sound free mover in profile, just couldn't quite match 1 for sheer power .

3.Macaulay's Ch Gartlove Goraidh completed a lovely trio.

Vet D.(2,1) 1. Pordham's Solstrand Arthur Ardfhuil, great favourite of mine. He still has lovely shape and balance, he is such a well made hound with the kindest head and expression, he is wearing well. Not the most enthusiastic of movers, he is still sound with good feet. Worthy winner of the stud dog cup.

Vet B (4) Absent.

MPB (8,2) Another class of quality puppies.

1.BPB, Turini Salamon's Karishma Della Bassa Pavese another beautiful puppy from this kennel. Superb shape and outline, so unlucky to meet the MD pup today. Wonderful for type, stunning feminine head , tiny rose ears, lovely forehand and good ribbing, correct top and underlines, loved her long bones and curves, and she didn't disappoint on the move, lovely reach and drive, free and effortless.

2.Cramphorn's Yelxba Victoria, a sweet pup giving away a lot in age at barely 6 months, but shows great promise at this stage. Attractive head and kind eye, good neck and forehand, well off for ribbing, strong quarters for her age, at 6 months impressive on the move.

3. Stirling's Clanlily Million Dollar Gem.

PB. (5,1) Goodson's Tinwhistle's Billie Jean by Moralach. Well grown pup of houndy proportions, tall but curvy. Very feminine head, good neck into well laid shoulders, good in forehand, excellent depth and length of ribbing, strong quarters used to advantage on the move, free and effortless.

2. Addington's Arwen Feebee's Home of Wolvebrigg. Another very attractive puppy, sweet head and especially good ears, nice curvy lines, not quite the depth of brisket at the moment, and a touch longer and flatter in topline, excellent feet, moved well in profile, front needs to tighten, just needs time, promising.

3. Pesjova and Bridges Katy Perry Roan Inish of Barrassy.

J.B. (5) 1. Amoo's Sade Arya, lovely dark brindle, curvaceous yet workmanlike, very houndy with excellent outline. Head needs to break, expression a tad harsh at present. Excels in neck and forehand, good depth and length of ribbing, balanced top and underlines, free and sound on the move, expertly handled. Type Cup bitch.

2. Grandis' Blueraindogs, another very attractive bitch of lovely proportions, feminine head and kind expression, ears a little flat. Good neck, forehand and ribbing, correct top and underlines, balanced angulation both ends, her novice handler didn't really do her justice, but she couldn't be overlooked.

3. Dawson's Stonestorm Dream Spirit of Shalico.

Y.B. (4,2) Tebbutt's Caredig Cariad, strong bitch of lovely proportions, kind expression and lovely dark eye, reachy neck, good depth and width of brisket, liked her topline and balanced angles, great width through the stifle, overall impression of great strength and power. Close up for RCC.

2. Sheppard's Conmeryl Miss Scarlet for Goldswift, attractive feminine bitch of different type, liked her overall shape, sweet head, and although slightly narrower in front has good depth and length of ribbing, balanced angulation, good tuck up, free and sound on the move, not the sheer power of 1.

N.B.(5,4) 1. Kenis Pordham's Laura Della Bassa Pavese, 4<sup>th</sup> in the quality MP class, and another from this lovely litter. Much more settled here, and showing her charms better. Sweet head and expression, promising in overall shape and balance, not quite the forehand at present of her littermates, but free and easy on the move.

P G B. 9(4) Difficult class of varying types.

1. Braine's Solstrand Celtic Flame for Hollyhenge. Attractive wheaten with the sweetest feminine head and expression, darkest of eyes and neat ears. Liked her overall make and shape, good in depth and width, good ribbing giving correct topline and underline, free easy mover in profile. Coat could be harsher.

2. Gregory's Killoughery Bliss, another nice bitch, not quite the soft expression of 1, but neat well held ears, good overall balance and angulation, well ribbed back with good depth and correct top and underlines. A tad shorter in upper arm, free sound mover.

3. Macaulay's Gartlove Gisella

MLB. (5,) All Absent.

L.B. (4,1) A nice trio of bitches with very little to separate them.

1. Gregory's Killoughery Eineen, bitch of good type and size, feminine head with the loveliest tiny neat rose ears, balanced outlook, decent shoulder and forehand, good depth and width of brisket, correct length of loin, nicely angulated both ends, good width through the stifle, moved well, soundly and freely.

2. Barnes Hazianne Little Mermaid, attractive feminine bitch from slightly smaller mould, and shorter coupled. Shapely outline, liked her top and underline, curves in all the right places, lovely and free in profile, best of feet, just not quite as tidy as 1 in front today.

3. Cramphorn's Yelxba Mera.

O.B. (9, 5) A royal tussle between the first two, it came down to nit picking in the end.

1. BCC and BIS, Johnson's Nellwyn's Miss Pollyanna. A beautiful bitch just coming to her best at 3 years old. Built on lovely flowing lines, she just oozes breed type and quality. Most feminine head and neat rose ears, reachy neck into well laid shoulder, good length of upper arm, ribbed well back with excellent top and underlines. Correctly angulated quarters, overall just filled my eye, moved out with drive and extension, and virtually foot perfect. On this form her title shouldn't be far away.

2. RCC. Turini Salamon's Alleliuah Della Bassa Pavese. I was hoping this lovely bitch would be present, as I judged her as a junior in France. Every bit the strong workmanlike hound I remembered, lovely head and strong jaws, excellent neck and forehand assembly, well ribbed back although her topline starts a little early, correct croup, strong quarters used well on the move. Her long journey may have affected her, but she appeared to be slightly dropping her nearside shoulder which decided the outcome, but a top quality bitch in hard condition.

3. Macaulay's Gartlove Ghleann Gordania.

Dave Malley Sp Beginners Memorial Stakes (Dogs) (7)

1. Bogart's N Ozymandios. 2. Gregory's K the Baron. 3. Jones Conmeryl Montgomery.

Jean Malley Sp Beginners Memorial Stakes (Bitches) (8)

1. Addington's Arwen Feebee's Home of W. 2. Gregory's K Bliss.

Brace. (4,1) 1. Macleod's. 2. Tebbutt's. 3. Gregory's.

Team. (2,1) Gregory's.

Jan Pain