

## Irish Wolfhound Championship Show 25/3/2016

Firstly, I would like to thank the Club Committee for giving me the chance to judge the Speciality classes at this year's Championship Show. I was thrilled to be able to accept and thoroughly enjoyed my day! The engraved crystal I was presented with to commemorate this is beautiful and is a treasured possession. Secondly, thank you to everyone who entered under me. It was an excellent opportunity to go over quality hounds. It is a different but positive challenge to judge classes that have both dogs and bitches in! Thanks also to my excellent steward, Alan Lefly and the assistance he gave to Carla du Rose who was stewarding for the first time and who I hope enjoyed the experience.

Novice dog/bitch: 11 (3)

A class of super hounds of different ages and stages of development which made it a difficult class to place. I'm sure that they will be exchanging places many times in the future.

1<sup>st</sup> Bradley's Glengail Gwendolyn 11 month old bitch puppy with beautiful lines and curves in all the right places. Super head and neck flowing into a very good front. Beautiful topline which she held well on the move. Excellent bone and moved with drive and determination. Lovely coat. I look forward to seeing her develop and sure that she has a bright future.

2<sup>nd</sup> Pask's Amarach Caitlin at Baronglen 15 month old tall, upstanding, strong young lady. Lovely head and good lay of shoulder. Deep chest, well ribbed up and covered the ground with her long strides. I would prefer a little longer upper arm but she will take a long time to mature and is well put together for this stage. Good hindquarters and in super condition.

3<sup>rd</sup> Das Purkayastha and Green's Ravensbeeck Romanus among Neckrebagh A super strong boy of 14 months whom I have had under me before and always liked him. Masculine without being bullish, lovely head and expression, good length of neck flowing into a good front. Deep chest and well ribbed. Curvy hind quarters, moved well showing off his good, even gait.

Post Graduate dog/bitch: 8(2)

Another strong class of differing types, ages and stages of development.

1<sup>st</sup> Ashby's Ashgroave Burleigh Bowdey A beautifully balanced 20 month old wheaten bitch whose age belied her mature looks. Has curves in all the right places and a powerful, straight mover who set her young handler a challenge to move her correctly but whom showed her off extremely well. Super head with dark eye, correct ears and neck set. Excellent bone throughout, well ribbed and flowing into well shaped hind quarters with that lovely rise over loin. A really super girl who is a credit to her breeder and whom I'm sure has a very promising future.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bridge's Katy Perry Roan Inish of Barrassy A youngster that has been doing very well in the show ring and whom I have followed with interest. Smaller than the first placed girl but equally well made. Beautiful head and expression, strong and long neck, good shoulders, deep chest and broad brisket. Very well balanced throughout with strong hindquarters which she used well on the move. Another straight, powerful mover who covered the ground well on excellent tight feet.

3<sup>rd</sup> Sheppard's Conmeryl Miss Scarlett for Goldswift A beautiful girl that I have always loved for her looks and character. Handled with excellence and empathy as she always is. Really pushed for the higher placings as she is such a beautiful, straight mover. The kindest expression in dark eyes, feminine head, lovely neck and good shoulder placement. Good tight feet and good width throughout. Her rise over loin went into well shaped hind quarters with well let down hocks. Held her topline on the move.

Open dog/bitch 7(4)

1<sup>st</sup> Bridge's Katy Perry Roan Inish of Barrassy

2<sup>nd</sup> Poole and Sheppard's Conmeryl Marksman with Goldswift Another that I have watched with interest from a puppy and have always liked immensely. He really pushed for first place and only just lost out as the 1<sup>st</sup> moved with such

drive and determination. A big upstanding boy with a masculine, handsome head and that lovely, far away gentle expression. Correct rose ears, long strong neck into good shoulder placement. Curves throughout and with well shaped hindquarters which made him a beautifully balanced boy with no exaggerations who moved out straight and true. Super boy.

3<sup>rd</sup> Donaldson's Rainster Rosa at Kirkcarswell A most lovely and gentle bitch handled beautifully and with empathy. Again, that far away expression that is so typical of sighthounds. Feminine head, good neck and lay of shoulder although I would prefer a slightly longer upper arm to complete the picture. Well ribbed, good topline which she held on the move and strong shapely hindquarters. Moved out and covered the ground well.

Sheena Evans (Braewisan)