

Irish Wolfhound Club Championship Show

Debbie Tebbutt

April 19th 2019

Thank you all so much for venturing out on the roads when it would have been much easier to stay at home. I was delighted with the entry I had. A few years ago I caused something of a stir when I failed to award a reserve CC to the second best male in what was a small entry. My argument was that the reserve CC winner still has to have the quality to be a champion. I had no such issues at this Club Show and was really so spoilt for choice in so many classes that I felt really privileged. Both my line ups were full of class and I hope gave the ringside the same pleasure in seeing them as they did me.

Minor Puppy Dog (4, 1 absent)

1. Treadwell's Floydian Saratoga
Striking pale red brindle ahead of his age in terms of general growth, with lots of muscle, great bone and a good lay of shoulder. He has lovely forechest, an excellent spring of rib and balanced angulation in the hindquarters. Lovely easy gait. Best Puppy in Show
2. Barnbrooks' Hazianne I've Been Bumbled at Bribiba
Good head with nice furnishings and lovely ears. I preferred the shoulder on this one over 3rd, and he had better spring of rib and depth of body. He could do with developing more forechest and more curve in the hindquarters, but has good length of body and good topline. My notes say "enjoying himself".
3. Braddyll's Conmeryl Quillman
The youngest in the line up, but a lot to like about him. Lovely pale grey brindle with good head and neat ear carriage. Not the length of upper arm or neck of 1st and 2nd, but better in hind angulation than 2nd and nice and deep in ribs, pleasing topline and well set tail.

Puppy Dog (1)

1. Dawsons' Hydebeck Dream Tyme of Graefyn
Big, well grown pale red brindle puppy with pleasing outline. I liked his length of muzzle and dark eye, good bite, long strong neck and nice proportions to hindquarters. More lay back of upper arm would improve his front. Active on the move.

Junior Dog (5, 1 absent) A very interesting class with 1 and 2 very close

1. Pateman's Gaeltarra Eireann Galen
A large, curvy, well made male, full of muscle, with great bone and strong hocks. He has a lovely head and the darkest of both ears and eyes. He has good depth of chest and strength of sternum where he outclassed 2nd, reaches out well, and sound in hocks
2. Dawson's Austonley's Falcon of Shalico
Another super boy with that fabulous combination of lovely dark pigmentation and the crispest of blond coats. Perhaps a touch shorter in muzzle than 1st, but neat ears and a kind expression. He has lovely depth of chest and rising topline and pleasing hind angulation but not the width in upper thigh of 1st. Excellent on the move, covering the ground in an effortless manner.
3. Murray's Sade Aryasson at Sabata
Tall and rangy dark youngster with nice upper arm, good shoulder, lovely width to chest and well set neck. I particularly liked his length of leg and the proportions of his head. This one looked so much better on the move than standing, showing a real houndy shape with rising topline and striding out well.

Yearling Dog (3, 1 absent)

1. Salamon & Turini's Pendragon della Bassa Pavese

Unmistakably of great size and particularly commanding appearance— a rarity in so young a dog. The standard says much about length; with this hound his muzzle is long and the planes of his head really pleasing with eyes and ears well set. The neck is good and the shoulders smooth. He is well ribbed back and shows a fine topline. I like his balance in the front and rear. Altogether fabulous in outline and with near perfect proportions- a very special dog. Showing his youth a bit in rear movement but who can deny that lovely steady measured easy stride when viewed from the side. CC and BIS

T Sumner's Dukesarum Yohji

Smaller version, a little shorter in leg for length, but, even so, much to like about him. Nice strong bone, I noted good layback of pasterns, good angulation behind and good wide upper thigh, nice breadth of body and good crisp coat. Naughty today, but alert expression and held ears well. Not much drive in hocks.

Novice Dog (2, 1 absent)

1. Hanlon's Ranfurley Prince

Nice two year old with good proportions, reasonable upper arm but could do with more angulation there and a touch more forechest and width. Not the longest of muzzles but showing dark pigmentation. He's getting plenty of exercise, has good muscle and was lively on the move, striding out well.

Post Graduate Dog (6, 3 absent) A bit of a difficult one here as there was a lot to like in all three of these.

1. Das Purkayasthas' Ballyphelan Asansol among Neckrebagh

More all of a piece than the other two, with pleasing overall shape and make. A no-nonsense dog who I can see active in the field. Not the lovely head of 3rd nor the sweet expression of 2nd, but he has that quality of curves all fitting together under the hands that well-constructed hounds have. He moved best in the class, exhibiting his power and strength.

2. Gregory's Barrassy's Shooting Star at Killoughery

Strong dog with fabulous bone and whose strong feet are an exemplar. Very solid and strong, I liked his width all through and his wide upper thigh and well let down hocks, but his topline was less firm than 1st. Like 3rd, a longer upper arm would improve him. Movement OK.

3. Appleyard's Bonaforte's Odyssey

This tall pale striking cream hound has a very classy head and neat ears. Nice depth of ribbing, good underline and pleasing topline. I would have liked a longer upper arm to bring his elbows a little more under him to balance the front to rear. Lovely gentle angulation and width to his hind legs. Free striding.

Mid Limit Dog (4) Two very classy dogs with different qualities

1. J&P Sumners' Ballyphelan Amadeus

Lovely young male who catches the eye when he enters the ring. Very curvy outline with good head proportions, smooth set neck leading to a gently rising topline and beautifully angulated hind legs and low hocks. Not quite the forechest or width of body of 2nd, but beautifully balanced in profile and easy on the move.

2. Surrell, Coleman and Simmons' Lonnkyle Pilgrim at Bokra

Really well made dog who wagged all the way through the class. He has lovely expression and type but just lacked the length of leg for which I was looking. Good wide body and lovely

front, unexaggerated in hind quarters, nice coat. Good shape on the move-and better coming and going than 1 - but his tail carriage is distracting.

3. Webb's Goldswift Mission Impossible for Inkleboys

Good big dog with long suffering expression. Nice head, well carried ears. Balanced in outline showing good topline and simple hindquarters, good shoulder. Solid moving

Limit Dog (2, 1 absent)

1. Redferns' Goldswift Fluke at Rainster

Standing alone but deserved to win with some competition. Tall 2 year old with an in-between coat, but nicely made. Lovely head, good expression, dark eyes, and dark pigmentation, good shoulder. Nice layback of upper arm, strong neck line, strong sternum, good underline, good width and muscle. Long, strong bone in legs, neat hocks and tight feet. A touch flat in topline at present. Side action good.

Open Dog (5, 1 Absent) Interesting class to judge. Both 1 and 2 were very good on the move.

1. Treadwell's Glengail Ggilmour at Floydian

Quality balanced male with head carried proudly on strong neck. Pleasing front, good width and depth of chest, good topline. Good tail set. Not exaggerated in any way, and more of a hound in outline than 2nd, but I'd like more length of leg to make him really imposing. Good sound mover.

2. Das Purkayasthas' Ravensbeech Romanus among Neckrebagh

Bigger dog in terms of ribbing and width than both 1st and 3rd.

Lots of quality and substance, nice expression, better underline than 1st. Pleasing croup, but a touch flat in topline when moving. Really strong behind and striding out well. Again I'd like more leg length.

3. Heather's Ravensbeech Revenio Whiteorchard

Looking young in the company of 1 and 2 but a nice dog with good proportions. Nice head and whiskers, lovely neck into good shoulders. Good topline, pleasing hind quarters, lively reaching stride action showing strength in hocks.

Champion Dog (2, 1 absent)

1. Pasks' CH Amarach Aaron at Baronglen

I can see why he is a champion, which is not always the case. Impressive and exceptional hound of great size, correct substance, glorious head, long whiskers, gentle expression, crisp coat in marvellous condition. He has good depth of chest and is well ribbed back. Lovely long legs with excellent bone. Good width across upper thigh. To be critical, I felt his knee could be lower and show better bend of stifle, and his croup is quite steep which I feel affected his range a bit. In the end these minor points were where the younger male had the edge over him for the CC. RCC.

Veteran Dog (1, 1 absent)

Veteran Bitch (4, 3 absent)

1. Evans-Jones & Halsall's Kracjik of First Avenue

Lovely, strong, well muscled 8 year old in the sort of muscular condition that could put some half her age to shame. Grey brindle, lovely expression, neat rosed ears, pleasing head. Strong broad front, deep chest, good feet, pleasing underline with a broad pelvis. Moved well.

Minor Puppy Bitch (3)

1. Gregory's Braewisan Kallai at Killoughery

Pretty little pale brindle with a really good head, showing long muzzle and accentuated occiput at the moment. She has a sweet expression, and well held, small ears. I liked her length of leg, her nice neck, her front assembly and her smooth feel. Tempted to give her best puppy bitch for her make and quality. The whole class was, of course, new and uncoordinated, but she won for her better front, curves and gentle outline.

2. Keary & Casely's Braewisan Lady of the Moon

Again, this one had a lovely head and dark pigmentation, nice topline, lovely sweep of hind quarters, slightly shorter in upper arm than 1st, but deep in chest, shapely and with good round strong feet. Rather enthusiastic with her tail.

3. Treadwell's Floydian Savanna

Stunning puppy standing, with the winning outline; lovely red brindle with not the head of 1st, but with a great neck and good leg length, lovely layback of upper arm, good lay of shoulder and generally pleasing front. Good muscle, nice and broad over croup and with a gently rising topline. This all went to pieces on the move where she crabbed and appeared to hitch a hind leg.

Puppy Bitch (4, 1 absent)

1. Catlow's Hydebeck Dream of Lorelei at Laoiseach

Pretty blonde hound with lots of curves. Best mover of the three. Lovely head with charming whiskers, alert, dark ears, eyes well set and head carried high. She has curves in all the right places, and nice hind angulation with good width. Sound on move. BPB

2. Stirling's Clanlily Diamond Dust

Taller than 1st but very similar in style to 3rd. Dark, leggy bitch with good coat, long upper arm, nice expression, longer foreface than 1st, pleasing outline, and lovely hind quarters with well let down hocks. Not quite the stride behind as the winner. She's a big girl for a puppy and needs to catch up with her more compact competitors.

3. Simpson's Clanlily Starlight Sky

Tall dark puppy with lots of typical features. Less shape in terms of general outline than 2nd, and a bit lighter in bone, but what a lovely personality. Nice head, good teeth, long straight front legs, wonderfully friendly and enjoying her day.

Junior Bitch (5, 1 absent) Some errant tails here.

1. Amoos' Sade Rainbow

Striking hound with a shining dark coat contrasting with a snowy sternum and matching white toes. Here's a bitch with real breed type all through who fitted so well into the final line up. Lovely dimensions here in that long muzzle with lovely planes to her head and the darkest pigmentation. I'd like her to develop whiskers to soften her expression. Nice long strong front legs, good underline. In all, a picture of balance. Easy and long striding on the move, and irresistible for the RCC despite her age.

2. Pask's Baronglen Miss Matilda

I preferred the head on this bitch. In fact she went on to win the head cup. Her head is classic and she has lovely small ears. Less good in front than 1st, she needs more length in upper arm. Lovely topline, good croup, the crispest of coats and lovely low hocks. Moved well.

3. Holder and Howe's Sade Araya Mascotts

More upright in upper arm, with less sternum and less width in front than 1st at present, but otherwise similar in type. Preferred topline of 1st and 2nd, and they moved better behind. Gentle expression, nice neck, but less width of thigh than 2nd. Well turned out, but has a mind of her own by the looks of it, which I'm sure will develop into her being a stunning show off!

Yearling Bitch (6, 1 absent) Very nice class indeed. Suddenly the movement had improved en masse.

1. T. Sumner's Dukesarum Lilybet

Curvy and substantial bitch with pleasing head, good front, lovely flow to underline and topline rising in just the right place. Good angulation at rear, good coat and croup. Would prefer more length of leg to complete the picture.

2. Evans-Jones & Halsall's Valheru Dream of Rhonabwy

Loved this one's height and leg length. Nice head, good front, good shoulder, nice crisp coat, extended well and looked good on the move.

3. Braine's Hollyhenge Carribbean Kiss

Nice big dark bitch. The most shapely of the three, with classic head, well set ears, nice slope to upper arm, but not as strong in front as 2nd. Lovely underline and excellent curve to hindquarters with good bone. What a long tail! Distracted on the move so difficult to judge here.

Novice Bitch (2, 1 absent)

1. Bruce's Goldswift Leap of Faith

Nice simple bitch with a glorious head and a gentle expression, neat ears and the crispest of coats. Straighter in upper arm than is ideal and needing more rear angulation, but good in neck, broad enough in body. In moving she reached out well but was rather close behind.

Post Graduate Bitch (7, 4 absent) Lovely class

1. Braine's Hollyhenge Carribbean Kiss

She performed much better here, moved steadily with head held high and easy active movement, and won a very good class. An example of how as a judge one has to give every exhibit a fresh pair of eyes and drop any misconceptions. She would have looked very good in the line-up, which is easy for the judge to say but difficult for the exhibitor to swallow.

2. Evans-Jones & Halsall's Valheru Rayna

Strong, well made bitch with similarities to 3rd. She has lovely bone, a very well laid shoulder, pleasing neck and deep chest. The hindquarters are powerful and well angulated though not quite matched by the front. A bit restless, but moved out well displaying her strength.

3. Crosse's Goldswift Sweet Discovery

This bitch has a kinder expression, well proportioned head with good ears and a pleasing topline and correct underline. I preferred the front of 2nd in terms of width, but she strode out with an easy gait.

Mid Limit Bitch (2) Lovely quality pair making up this class

1. J&P Sumner's Ballyphelan Anna Lisa

A lovely hound who is a picture of curves from head to tail. I loved her upper arm, her underline and gently rising topline and the bend of her stifle. Gorgeous flowing bitch looking stunning when she got her head up and fell into her easy gait.

2. Wilkinson's Jessica Kate Roan Inish

I loved the dark eyes of this bitch and her lovely whiskers. Similar in upper arm to 1st but slightly better in shoulder, flatter in ear, but with a typical expression which was not evident throughout the entry in general, lovely bone, low strong hocks and again all curves. Moved out well.

Limit Bitch (9, 2 absent)

1. Forret's Morgana Della Bassa Pavese at Culvercroft

Tall, substantial bitch with beautiful head and good outline. Good deep chest, firm tuck up and lovely sweeping hindquarters. Shapely and sound, she moved at times with enthusiasm, but needs to gain the command that comes from learning to believe in herself to reach the potential which she has.

2. T Sumner's Dukesarum Chiara

More compact than 1st but well balanced. The best mover in the class by far. Nice enough head but a bit of a flat ear. Less lay back of upper arm than ideal, but what a show of activity on the move.

3. Porter's Lindall Passion

Young bitch with a glorious coat. My notes say - tri colour face- and exceptional bone. I have seldom seen such thrust through the hind legs – a real powerhouse - but I am not sure if it fits the easy bit of easy and active. Very curvy quarters, great underline, dark pigmentation. She needs more length of leg and more rise in topline for me, but could inject some power into breed.

Open Bitch (3, 1 absent) Two very special bitches but 1 won out on length of leg, a better front and more curving outline

1. Salamon & Turini's It.Ch Miranda Della Bassa Pavese

A dark grey bitch full of flowing lines and all of a piece. Lovely head and expression, good neck, nice length of body and rise of topline. She showed better length of upper arm and a stronger forechest than 2nd, has good width all through and to top it all the crispest of coats. Exceptional on the move with strong hocks, head held high and covering the ground with commanding appearance. Delighted to have awarded her CC

2. Treadwell's Glengail Ggeraldine at Floydian

This one also has a lovely head and a sweet expression, with a pleasing balance to her body. I loved the smoothness of her neck and shoulder placement and that gently rising topline. She has a touch less hind angulation than 1st but presents a lovely balanced picture and moved really well showing good extension and nice strong hocks. With that quality I had to call her back for RCC which she contested closely.

Champion Bitch (1, 1 absent)