

IRISH WOLFHOUND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 30.8.2021

Please accept my apologies for the delay in producing my critique, Chippy and I had a 2 week staycation holiday in the UK after the show.

Firstly my thanks go to the membership who voted for me to judge this show. Acknowledgement and credit to the committee and co-opted show manager, Sue Wilkinson for their bravery, planning and hard work on the day to schedule both the Championship and Open show together on the same day.

Also thanks to my "Senior" and "Apprentice" stewards, we had an enjoyable day.

I gather the complimentary buffet was appreciated so well done and thank you to Pauline, Pat and helpers for lunch.

Thank you for my gift, a beautiful engraved vase.

Photographer Tony Minnet, as to be expected, provided his usual professional, but friendly service and took some lovely photos of the main winners with the major trophies for me.

One major point of concern. Although I personally didn't hear any hounds coughing, apparently exhibitors were present at the show with coughing hounds. We should all put the health of our hounds above attending a dog show and never place them or other people's hounds at risk.

I have been informed of one puppy who has been gravely ill at the vets on a drip who thankfully is now recovering, hopefully without further medical issues as a consequence of contracting kennel cough and a bill for £4,000 for her owners.

Kennel cough kills wolfhounds, especially young puppies and elderly hounds. Please leave ill dogs at home and take the most stringent precautions.

Congratulations to my winners. I felt honoured to have quality hounds throughout the entry.

Top honours went to:

BIS Salamon's Ita Ch. Pendragon Della Bassa Pavese. A magnificent stallion hound of commanding appearance, oozing quality and so impressive, he owned the ring. Beautifully presented, of exceptional type and fully mature. Kind, expressive head, strong neck into well angulated shoulder with forechest. Wonderful strong, straight bone and tight feet. Topline with rise over loin, sweep to underline. Depth and substance throughout. Length and angulation to stifle, with width through. Moved out well in profile, impressive outline. Moved a little close behind. In good condition and harsh coat. His owner informed me that this CC was his third, making him a UK champion, subject to KC approval.

Res BIS Amoo's Ch. Sade Rainbow. A stunningly beautiful bitch of excellent type and full of quality. Lovely sighthound head with far seeing expression. Shapely with curvaceous lines all through. Nicely bodied up and in hard muscular condition. A little high on the hock. Moved freely and easily in profile, very impressive and looks as though she could hunt all day, a lovely houndy bitch. She and my RBCC, in my opinion, were two absolutely beautiful bitches, of lovely type and teeming with quality.

RDCC Amoo's Ch. Sade Paris. Has matured into a sound dog whose movement is exceptional, he powered around the ring like a train, driving off his powerful muscled quarters, really covering the ground. Handsome well furnished head. Well laid shoulder with forechest, good bone, could possibly do with a little more length of leg. Shapely with depth and substance throughout. Kept his topline on the move, well angulated and strong hindquarters, in hard muscular condition. On reflection I realised that I had omitted to ask the second in Open to challenge for the RDCC. It would have been interesting to have judged these two outstanding males together.

RBCC Salamon's Its Ch. Miranda Della Bassa Pavese. An absolutely beautiful bitch of stunning type and quality, sadly just beginning to show her age and a little lazy on the move. An exquisite head with the softest expression. Length of neck into superb shoulder placement with lovely forechest. Strong straight bone. Topline with rise over the loin, a little flat in underline. Nicely angulated quarters with width through. A very impressive, outstanding bitch, she's just beautiful.

Best Veteran Clive and Caroline Sheppard's Ch. Conmeryl Miss Scarlet for Goldswift. An eight year old beautiful girl who certainly doesn't look her age. She is an absolute credit to her breeder and owner, she's amazing. Of lovely type with a beautiful greying head with such a soft, kind expression (she won the cup for Best Head and Expression). Lovely make and shape, curves all through with good bone and substance. She excels on the move, so sound and true coming and going and wonderful in profile. Effortless movement with reach and drive that is incredible for her age, also maintaining her topline on the move. In lovely condition.

Best Puppy Heather's Whiteorchard Astra. A pretty, feminine, very collected puppy for her age, she has a lot of potential. Balanced and shapely with enough bone and substance. Houndy head with furnishings and nice, dark eye. Good neck into fair shoulder, could have tighter feet. Good topline and underline, could have more width through stifle. She's very sound and athletic on the move. The bursa on her left elbow doesn't hamper her movement. Excellent harsh coat. One of four nice puppies here today from the same breeder.

Minor Puppy Dog – no entries

Puppy Dog – 2 (1 ab)

1st- Reeve's Whiteorchard Arcturus.

10 months old tall well grown young male. Beautifully furnished head with well held ear. Long strong neck. Good topline and sweep to underline. Lacking forechest and a little tight in front, needs more slope and length to upper arm. Moderate bend of stifle with good length of second thigh width across croup. Lovely temperament, a very happy boy therefore a bit uncollected on the move. Best puppy dog.

Junior Dog – 3

1st – Redfern's Rainster Tomas.

Strong upstanding 17 month powerful young male in hard muscular condition. A real prospect for the future. Houndy head. Strong neck into excellent breadth and depth of prominent forechest and superb shoulder placement. Deep body with substance and strength throughout. Good length of second thigh and well let down hock. Harsh coat. Long heavy tail. When he had his head up moving in profile he excelled but a little close behind. At times standing sinks onto his rear end. A handful for his handler.

2nd – Ashby's Ashgrove Alfie Bumble

A rangy tall hound with scope and potential. Houndy head but a little light in eye. Decent neck into well laid shoulder with forechest. Long straight bone. Little flat in forefeet. Rise to topline and sweep to underline. Lacks width through stifle and a little erratic on the move at present. Wiry coat. In good condition.

3rd – Hugh's Cluaranedge Caradog

Well grown youngster. Nice masculine head with good dark pigmentation and well held ears. Width and substance throughout. Long tail. In hard condition, but tends to turn his feet out on the move, otherwise went well.

Yearling Dog – 3 (1 ab)

1st – Walters Killoughery Tristar

An honest hound with a lovely head with soft expression. Well bodied with substance throughout but a little short coupled. Good neck into reasonable front assembly. Strong bone. Tail set on a little high and carried gaily due to his happy outgoing temperament. Moves true in front but a little close behind. Well conditioned with wiry coat.

2ND – Hooper's Floydian Affric

This was the hound and owners first show and she did very well with him. A hound with a lovely temperament and enjoying his day out. Pleasant head with kind expression. He's balanced and nicely angulated but a little fine throughout and needs to body up. Moved out well in profile but rather erratic coming and going. Has the potential do do well as he matures.

Novice Dog – 1

1st – Norrie's Balnuith Shoot for the Moon

His handler had never met him before so he was a bit unsettled until he got into his stride and then he moved well in profile. He's rather flat in forefeet and his nails need cutting. Nicely furnished head with a dark eye. Well bodied with substance. Needs a little more length of leg. Excellent muscular condition.

Graduate Dog – 2

1st – Webb's Floydian Syracuse at Foinaven

A striking old fashioned hound of beautiful type, very handsome. So balanced. Houndy head with far seeing expression. Strong crested into good shoulder placement but elbows a little tight. Strong straight bone. Substance throughout. Lovely angulated quarters with low hock but tends to sink down into himself. When under control he moved well,

needs some ring training. Excellent harsh coat and presented in great condition.

2nd – Dawson's Red Rock Canyon of King Howard Legends of Shalico (Imp Fra)

Tall powerful strong hound but he tends to drop off over the croup and is rather proud of his tail. Handsome masculine furnished head with excellent dark eye with dark pigmentation and a big black nose. Long strong straight bone. Tight feet. Good make and shape and angulation throughout. Moves soundly in profile, also out and back. Long tail. Harsh coat. Lovely temperament.

Post Graduate Dog – (3 abs)

1st – Sheppard's Glengail Hhades

A balanced type sound hound. Lovely head with kind expression. Well laid shoulder with forechest and good straight bone. Enough body through. Angulated quarters with width through stifle. In hard muscular condition which showed in his steady sound movement, very true coming and going. He has scope and potential.

2nd – Dawson's Hydebeck Dream Tyme of Graefyn

Workmanlike strong balanced hound with good depth and substance throughout. Masculine head with well placed ear, strong neck into good shoulder placement. Good bone and strength through. Rise to topline, a little flat in underline. Moderate bend of stifle. Moved out with reach and drive in profile, a little close behind. Harsh coat and well presented. Close decision between 1st and 2nd

3rd – Hughes Sanffraidd Brenig

Balanced hound but a little light in bone, although has enough body and condition. Good length and planes to head and well set on ears. Good coat and well conditioned. Moved soundly in profile and fore and aft.

Limit Dog – 5 (1 ab)

1st – Das Purkayastha's Ballyphelan Asansol Among Neckrebagh

A powerful strong dog, a true male. Strength and substance throughout. Masculine head but rather round light eye. Strong neck, depth of chest. Long strong straight bone. Width across croup and powerful quarters.

Lovely long tail. Harsh coat. Presented in good condition. Moved soundly and easily and actively for such a large hound.

2nd – Taylor and Lynch’s Gaeltarra Eireann Watson (Imp NLD)

A nicely balanced shapely houndy male of good type but not the masculinity of 1st. Kind expressive head but a little short in muzzle and flattish ear. Fair shoulder placement and forechest. Nice lines to body and angulated quarters with low hock which he drove off well. Movement sound and true. A little proud of his tail.

3rd – Littlefair’s Goldswift Phoenix Kiss

An honest balanced hound of good proportions. Lots of furnishing on a kind head with expressive eye, a little flat in ear. Decent neck into fair shoulder placement. Nice shape overall and nice low hock. Moved soundly and kept his topline on the move.

Open Dog – 6 (3 ab)

1st – Salamon’s ITA Ch Pendragon Della Bassa Pavese (ATC AVO 2955ITA)

Dog CC and BIS

2nd – Tebbutt’s Caredig Donovan

Strong powerful typy male who looks as though he could hunt all day. In hard muscular condition. Handsome houndy head. Crested neck into well muscled angulated shoulder giving forechest. Strong bone and tight feet. Depth and substance throughout. Rise over topline and sweep to underline. Width through across croup. Well angulated quarters with width through stifle. Moved out with reach and drive in profile but rather erratic going away.

3rd – Webb’s Goldswift Mission Possible for Inkleyboys

A strong balanced boy, possibly carrying a little too much weight. Well furnished head with a kind dark eye. Strong neck into well laid shoulder with forechest. Nice lines through. Width through stifle. Moved out well in profile but a little close behind.

Champion Dog – 1

Amoo’s Ch Sade Paris

Res Dog CC

Veteran Dog – 1

Colbert's Nanu Nana Von Den Erzminen

7^{1/2} year old balanced dog who is in good muscular condition and a credit to his owner. He is balanced and nicely bodied although a little fine in bone. He has a greying nice head with kind expression. He is very light on his feet and an active and sound mover. Best Veteran Dog

Veteran Bitch – 3 (1 ab)

1st – Sheppard's Ch Conmeryl Miss Scarlett for Goldswift. Best Veteran in Show

2nd – Campbell-Woodford's Rivenhounds Bonfire at Kilmachduagh ShCm

Almost 9 years old lovely lady in good condition and a credit to her owners. Kind head with soft expression and nice dark eye. Ears could be tidied up. Good bone with tight feet. Fair topline but she has lost sweep to her underline. Nicely angulated quarters. Moved out well but a little weak behind. Enjoying her day out.

Minor Puppy Bitch – 2

1st – Heather's Whiteorchard Ad Astra BPIS

2nd – Campbell-Woodford's Whiteorchard Adhara at Kilmacduagh

A mature puppy with a pretty furnished head, but at present lacking pigmentation. Long strong neck into reasonable shoulder. Strong straight bone but flat in feet. Nicely bodied up. Well angulated strong hindquarters with length of second thigh. Moves well in profile and coming and going but rings tail on the move. She has excellent coat texture but legs need to be "blended" in.

Junior Bitch – 8 (3ab)

This was a strong class with lovely young bitches

1st – Webb and Simmon's Floydian Inchyra

Typy strong bitch full of quality and a huntress but needs ring training as she is not making the best of herself and erratic on the move but I could see enough of her power, movement and qualities to award her 1st place. She has a beautiful head with such a wonderful expression. Crested powerful neck into excellent forechest and well laid shoulder. Curvaceous and flowing lines all through and angulated quarters but sinks into herself

and a little close behind. Beautifully presented in harsh coat and well muscled condition.

2nd – Salamon's Wintaka Della Bassa Pavese (ATC AY 921861TA)

Of beautiful type, tall and rangy with lots of scope, her movement was exceptional, she was so sound and flew around the ring with reach and drive. Beautiful sight hound head, lovely curvaceous flowing lines all through, long straight bone, a little light though at present. Rise over topline, sweep to underline. Moderate bend of stifle and length of second thigh. In super condition and very well presented

3rd – Ashby's Ashgrove Crystal

A very typical houndy bitch of good make and shape. Pretty furnished pleasant head with dark eye. She has substance and curves through. Correct topline and underline. Well angulated quarters with width across croup. Tail seemed limp. Moved somewhat erratically.

Yearling Bitch – 4 (1 ab)

1st – Forrett's Valkiria Della Bassa Pavese at Culvercroft (Imp Ita)

4th in Junior where she just did not want to move in unison with her handler, she went much better in this class with her head under control. Very feminine with a pretty furnished head. Well placed shoulder and good bone. A little flat in forefeet. Rather long in body and tucks up a little severely. Well angulated quarters with low hocks which she used well on the move in profile in this class, driving off her hocks and reaching out in front.

2nd – Gregory's Killoughery Khaos

Strong powerful looking wheaten bitch with the hardest of coats and in hard muscular condition. Rather plain I head but dark eye and good pigmentation. Well held ears rose ears. Length of neck into fair shoulder placement. Long straight bone. Tight feet. Good topline and sweep to underline. Curves throughout into angulated hind quarters. Moves out well in profile with reach and drive but a little close behind.

3rd – Bruce's Killoughery Talia

A balanced pretty and feminine bitch. Sweet head with kind expression. Ears well held. Overall nice make and shape with enough bone and nicely bodied up. Tight feet. Moderately angulated quarters. Well set on tail and carriage good. Moved steadily.

Novice Bitch – 6 (2 ab)

1st – Treadwell's Floydian Savanna

Lovely typy quality bitch with curvaceous lines through. Houndy head with kind expression, correct ears. Crested neck into well angulated shoulder with forechest. Well bodied with substance through. Nicely angulated hindquarters. Drove out well in profile but a little close behind. Harsh coat and well presented.

2nd – Catlow's Hydebeck Dream of Lorelei at Laoiseach

Strong wheaten workmanlike bitch but a little unsettled looking for her Mum. Furnished head with super dark pigmentation. Well made and balanced fore and aft. Good bone and lovely tight forefeet. Rise to topline and sweep to underline. A little high on the hock and slightly close behind but strode out well with purpose in profile. Excellent harsh coat and in good condition.

3rd – Kingsley and Cope's Bonafortes Wish Come True for Dainwolf

Youngster with a pretty feminine head but slightly light in eye although her expression is fine. Balanced overall but a little upright in front and lacking in upperarm and a little straight in hind quarters. Nicely bodied but a little fine in bone. Moved soundly and steadily both in profile and coming and going. Sweet temperament.

Graduate Bitch – 2 (1 ab)

1st - Wiseman's Hazianne Another Eclipse

Dark shapely bitch with nice lines through. Sweet head with soft expression but rather flat in ear. Length of neck into fair shoulder placement with forechest. Good topline with rise over loin. Nicely bodied up and width over croup. Long tail. A little light in bone. Moved quite well in profile.

2nd – Kingsley and Cope's Bonoforte Wish Come True for Dainwolf

Post Graduate Bitch – 6 (5 ab)

1st – Sumner's Dukesarum Maudegann (AJ)

Typy shapely bitch who moved out really well in profile eating up the ring with reach and drive but coming toeing in slightly in front and going a little close behind. Houndy old fashioned head, slightly light eye and ear

rather flat. Reach of neck into reasonable front assembly. A little flat in forefeet. Topline with rise over loin which she maintained on the move and sweep to underline. Nicely angulated quarters which she drove off well. Harsh dark coat.

Limit Bitch – 8 (1 ab)

1st Salamon's Sarabi Della Bassa Pavese (ATC ATO14941ITA)

Impressive beautiful typy bitch of quality, she looked a picture standing but when she moved she was exceptional, very stylish with a long powerful easy reaching stride and so sound flowing around the ring. Super head carriage, held high on the move. Rather flat in ear. Long neck in good shoulder placement with forechest. Long straight bone and tight feet. Needs to body up a little. Moderately angulated hindquarters which she used so well on the move, maybe a little high on the hock. Presented in lovely condition.

2nd – Sumners Dukesarum Meg (AJ)

A lovely bitch, totally balanced and so shapely, curvaceous lines all through. Of beautiful type and a true hound. Lovely furnished head with kind expression. Good bone, depth and substance throughout. Well held topline on the move. Width over croup. Angulated quarters and low hocks which she really used and drove off on the move, sound free easy movements in profile and coming and going.

3rd – Gregory's Cairnstorm Keepsake

Striking cream powerful rangy bitch full of curves from head to toes. Gorgeous head with darkest of eye and excellent pigmentation. Rose ear set on nicely. Lovely bone. Crested neck into fair shoulder placement. Strong topline and underline, drops off a little over croup. Well angulated hindquarters with width through stifle that she used well on the move. Free powerful movement in profile. Throws left foot coming. Well covered long tail.

Open Bitch – 6 (1 ab)

1st – Salomon's ITA Ch Miranda Della Bassa Pavese (ATC ATO1386ITA)

2nd – Tebbutt's Caredig Destiny

A true huntress of lovely type, so well made and put together, but looking unsettled today and not quite moving true coming and going, but excelled in profile with powerful driving movement striding around the ring. Old fashioned houndy head with soft expressive eye. Super ears. Crested neck into well angulated shoulder giving forechest. Strong bone and tight feet. Lovely topine and underline. Nicely bodied up with substance and power throughout. Moderately angulated powerful hindquarters. Presented in hard muscular condition. A lovely bitch.

3rd – Sumner's Dukesarum Chiara

A typy shapely bitch with depth and substance through. Pretty head with dark eye and alert expression. Rather flat in ear carriage. Crested neck into good shoulder placement with forechest. Rise over loin and good topline which she held on the move. Sweep to underline. Powerful angulated hindquarters with width through stifle, maybe a little high on hock. Moved with reach and drive and effortlessly in profile but a little close behind.

Champion Bitch -1

Amoo's Ch Sade Rainbow

Bitch CC and Reserve BIS

Brace

1st – Gregory's wheaten and cream brace moving out well in unison. A powerful pair of hounds.

Team

1st – Heather's team were well handled around the ring and looked very similar for type.

Judge

Chris MacLeod

Brachan