

The Irish Wolfhound Club, 44th Championship Show, Friday 15th April, 2022

Judge : Jocelyne Gagné (Starkeeper, Canada)

I am most grateful for this opportunity to go over so many Irish Wolfhounds at the Annual Club Show. It was an honour that I thoroughly enjoyed. My thanks to the committee and to my two capable stewards Malcolm Lees and Alan Lefley. And of course I appreciate all of the exhibitors who were so congenial and accepted my placements with good grace. Most of all, I enjoyed the hounds. I must also thank my friend Mark Coccoza who made this trip so pleasant for me and my travelling companion Barb, and who transported me to and from the show.

In my judging, I was looking for a large athletic hound with a typical sighthound shape. In order to win a class under me, the wolfhound would have to be a good mover. I truly believe that a sighthound is only as good as its legs. And I want my winners to be in good physical condition. I hope that my placements reflected this to those in attendance. Temperaments were solid and steady, with perhaps one or two exceptions where the hounds were not so sure of what was happening. But overall, your hounds were a joy and tolerated my examinations with great patience and good humour.

I must say that I had some lovely hounds to go over, and several, especially my Best of Breed winner, made my heart sing. What a joy to watch that bitch walk into the ring in the limit class.... To be honest, she is the one I would have taken home, and she would have fit right in with my hounds. She is my style of wolfhound and I had to reward her on the day as she didn't put a foot down wrong and held herself with great presence throughout the judging.

Having had the good fortune to judge around the world, and having officiated at a number of Irish Wolfhound specialties with significant entries over the last few decades, I feel I must comment that I wished that there was more depth of quality in the classes I judged here. For the most part my class winners and often the second place in a class, were very worthy hounds. But I did find that the great majority of hounds were decent specimens, but not exciting in terms of being breed representatives. I can only encourage you to breed to the best you can, with the key attributes of what make a quality wolfhound, and move forward from there.

And now on to the individual critiques by class.

MINOR PUPPY DOG

1 BARONGLEN THE NOBLEMAN This was a very impressive youngster, of great size and substance with a pleasing outline. He has lovely bone and for such a youngster handles himself well on the move being very sound and solid. A long and tall puppy, he is well proportioned. Has good feet. Liked his smooth curves and especially his nicely rounded croup. To be picky, would like to see a bit more energy on the move. BEST MALE PUPPY.

2 HYDEBECK HICKRY DICKRY DOCK Another long and tall youngster. He has lovely length to him, and maintains a good topline standing and on the move. Good bone and overall shape. He is a bit of a handful for his handler at the moment. Somewhat steep in the croup but uses himself well and is a great mover.

3 CREENA ATTICUS FINCH AT DUKESARUM This was a smaller boy in stature with a good shape, very curly. Adequate bone for his size. Would like to see more of him. He moved soundly.

RES GAELMARGQUE NOMATEUS Somewhat disjointed on the move, could not seem to collect himself to move in co-ordinated fashion.

VHC HYDEBCK HEART OF GOLD AT GRAEFYN

PUPPY DOG

1 CAIRSTORM RENEGADE This youngster won the class on his smooth and easy movement. He has a nice shape, well proportioned; good curves. At first when standing he seemed to rise too soon over the loin, but this seems to just have been an illusion from the coat. Good bone and substance; nicely balanced.

2. LINDALL COOL HAND LUKE Another young male with good bone and a nice shape overall. While he is quite sound, I would like to see more reach and drive as he moves. A bit short in upper arm, and this may be restricting his reach.

3 KILLOUGHERY ROCKAFELLA A slightly smaller red brindle boy. A good male who moves smoothly. Could use a bit more breadth to his rear stifles.

RES HYDEBCK HEY DIDDLE DIDDLE

JUNIOR DOG

1 WHITEORCHARD ARCTURUS This big fellow was impressive with a great outline and shape. Nicely balanced proportions both front and rear; and in length to height. Good bone, nice smooth curves overall and a well rounded croup. He moved nicely, but I would have liked to see a bit more reach and drive as standing he presents as a powerful dog so I would expect to see more strength in his movement.

2 WHITEORCHARD ATLAS Another large male with a great shape; good bone and substance. He was a bit straight in the pastern. He is a bit short in upper arm which could impact his forward reach. Moved without enthusiasm, although soundly. Would like more reach and drive.

3 HYDEBECK HEY DIDDLE DIDDLE A long and tall young male. He is somewhat straight in front and especially the pastern needs more flexibility. He gaited smoothly and was easy on the move. A bit steep in croup. Could use more breadth to stifle.

RES KILLOUGHERY RICOCHET WITH BRAEWISAN

VHC ELECTRIC ATMOSPHERE

YEARLING DOG

1 ELECTRIC ATMOSPHERE A long and tall youngster. Adequate bone. He is too straight in the front, and especially in the pastern. He is shown in good condition. His stop is a little too well defined which spoiled his head somewhat.

NOVICE DOG

1 KING MERLIN This was the best mover in the class who propelled himself smoothly around the ring with good reach and drive. He is a large, masculine fellow with good bone and size. Nice head, well rosed ears, long and strong neck. A pleasing outline, although I would like to see more forechest and he is a bit soft in the topline.

2 GAELMARQUE DARK HORSE AT FINLOREN A male with good substance and bone. Not as smooth a mover as the first place winner, perhaps because he moved around the ring with his head down. Could use more breadth to his stifle and rear quarters. A little steep in the croup.

3 ELECTRIC ATMOSPHERE

RES HAZIANNE'S LAW ENFORCER

POST GRADUATE DOG

1 ASHGROAVE ALFIE BUMBL A large well boned dog with good shape. He presents as a strong, mature male. He is nicely proportioned and has excellent type. He has a smooth and strong topline. Moves nicely, although a little wide in the front. Shown in good condition. Looks as though he could do his job to both catch and dispatch his prey.

2 GAELMARGQUE RUSSET ROMAN Another good sized male. Good height and length, although a bit soft in the topline. He is an easy mover, very sound, but insisted on keeping his head down.

3 RED ROCK CANYON OF KING HOWARD LEGENDS OF SHALICO A big male, with great bone. Good head and expression and a very sweet boy. Bit of a longish coat. Has good angulation, front and rear. Could use a bit more back length. Short upper arm. He has a steep croup and needs more reach and drive on the move.

RES DUKESARUM FIONN

VHC NEWDIGATE MARLON BRANDO

LIMIT DOG

1 HYDEBECK DREAM TYME OF GRAEFYN This dog has a lovely shape. Nice type. Good bone and substance He is smooth and easy on the move. Very sound and powerful. He has a pleasing typical head and expression. Looks like a hunter who can do his job as a sighthound.

2 DUKESARUM YOHJI This is another good sized male with a pleasing shape and outline, although a bit long in back length to my eye. He moved soundly but could use more reach and drive.

3 GAELTARRA EIREANN WATSON This male has a nice outline; typical shape. Good curves fore and aft. Moved well but without enthusiasm.

RES FLYDIAN SYRACUSE AT FOINAVEN

VHC HAZIANNE PARTIAL ECLIPSE

OPEN DOG

1 GOLDSWIFT MISSION POSSIBLE FOR INKLEYBOYS This was a handsome hound with a typical shape and outline. He has good bone and substance. A strong topline and good muscular croup. He has powerful rear quarters with nice breadth to his stifles. He moves very easily and soundly, with good reach and drive. Very pleasing and typical head. A bit tight in the underjaw, but acceptable. A male of strength who should be able to hunt.

2 BALLYPHELAN ASANSOL AMONG NECKREBAGH Another good, strong male with great bone. He is just a tad long in back length. He has good breadth to his stifle; strong rear quarters. He us a bit choppy in his front movement.

3 WHITEORCHARD ARCTURUS

CHAMPION DOG

1 CH SADE PARIS A most impressive, masculine and mature male. A large and strong dog in good condition. Great height and length; nicely proportioned; good bone. Presents with a typical outline, good topline. Used himself easily; smooth going around the ring. Athletic. Built like a sighthound capable of chasing down prey. Would like to see a bit more enthusiasm in his movement. DOG CC; BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX.

2 CH CAREDIG DONOVAN Another handsome strong male with good size and bone and substance; nicely proportioned. Not quite the length of back or size of the first place hound, but still of typical shape. No mistaking this is a powerful male. Good topline. Strong, broad, well muscled rear quarters which he used to his advantage on the move. Excellent coat. Would just like a little more roundness to his croup. Not the scope of the first place hound. RESERVE DOG CC

3 CH RAVENSBEECH REVENIO WHITEORCHARD This male has a good shape, very typical. I liked his low hocks. He has a lovely head and expression and he handles himself well on the move. Just not the scope or power of the two who placed in front of him.

VETERAN DOG

1 CH RAVENSBEECH REVENIO WHITEORCHARD The best mover in this class; smooth and easy. BEST VETERAN

2 BUCHAILL CIARAN This was a large male with good height and length. Presents with a good outline, although steep in the croup. He is an easy mover

3 MASCOTTS CONQUISTADOR AT INCITATUS This dog is a shade long in back; has good height. He has a pleasing shape. On the move he is sound but he could use more reach and drive. Also steep in croup.

RES RAVENSBEECH ROMANUS AMONG NECKEBACH SCHCM

DOG CC

CH SADE PARIS

RESERVE DOG CC

CH. CAREDIG DONOVAN

BEST PUPPY DOG

BARONGLEN THE NOBLEMAN

VETERAN BITCH

1 GLENGAIL GGLENYS This girl had a lovely shape; she is both long and tall with good proportions. Nice long, strong neck flowing smoothly into a solid topline. Good bone. Presented a nice outline. She is a smooth mover on the go around and uses herself efficiently.

2 BRAEWISAN ORLAITH A smaller more compact girl than the first place. She also has a good shape and is nicely balanced. And easy mover. Not the scope of the hound in first place.

3 YELXBA VICTORIA This bitch has a nice shape. She is a substantial girl with good curves. Rise over loin starts a bit early. She has a pleasing head. A good mover.

RES CH DUKESARUM SCOUT

VHC GLENGAIL GGERALDINE AT FLOYDIAN

MINOR PUPPY BITCH

1 GAELMARQUE TREASURED BY GOLDSWIFT This youngster has a lovely outline and great shape . She holds her lovely topline whether standing or on the move. She has lovely rear quarters and broad stifles. Nicely proportioned all over with balance, which show in her great movement. Impressive for a young puppy. BEST FEMALE PUPPY; BEST PUPPY.

2 HYDEBECK RING OF ROSES This long and tall youngster still had a good shape. Very athletic looking and a bit angular at the moment. However, I expect she will come together as she matures. She has lovely rear quarters showing power and strength. A good mover.

3 CREENA HARPER AT DUKESARUM The youngest in this class. Has good bone. I find her a bit long in the loin.

PUPPY BITCH

1 KILLOUGHERY REDEMPTION This puppy girl had a lovely head and strong, long neck. She has a very nice shape and outline and is well proportioned. Good topline and moves adequately.

2 WOLVEBRIGG HOLLY She seemed a bit put off with me at first but finally settled. She has a pleasing shape, but would like to see her have more bone. A shade too long in back length. Short in upper arm. Moved satisfactorily.

3 MONST INC JUSTYNE NAF This bitch has good bone. She is moving high in the rear now, which makes it look like she running downhill. She is a bit flat in her topline and could use more reach and drive on the move. Moves a bit wide behind.

RES CAIRSTORM RUBY

JUNIOR BITCH

1 WHITEORCHARD AD ASTRA JW presents with a lovely outline. She has good shape and is nicely balanced. Lovely forechest. Has a strong second thigh. Good bone and substance throughout. She has smooth easy movement. An athletic young female who is built to do her job as a huntress.

2 OH BABY! VON DER EICHENKOPPEL A long and tall bitch with good bone and feet. She has a typical shape and is very sound on the move. Needs time to mature and her chest needs to drop some. Could use more forechest.

3 ERIU'S BEVERLY AT DUKESARUM This was a smaller bitch than the 2 who placed in front of her. She has good shape and a very pleasing and typical head. She has smooth and easy movement. Not the scope of those hounds placed in front of her.

RES WHITEORCHARD ADHARA AT KILMACDUAGH

YEARLING BITCH

1 WHITEORCHARD ADHARA AT KILMACDUAGH This bitch has a good shape overall when looking at her outline. Bone is adequate. Her rear quarters appear more powerful and angulated than the forequarters. She has a short upper arm. Her movement is choppy and she paddles with her front feet so she is not moving well.

NOVICE BITCH

1 BRACHAN WOLF MOON This is a large and substantial bitch. She has good bone and is nicely proportioned with good length and height. She has a long, strong neck. Good forechest. An easy mover. Presented in good condition. Very typical. Athletic and should be able to function well as a huntress.
BEST NOVICE

2 KILLOUGHERY ENIGMA This was a smaller bitch than the winner. She has good bone and a good outline. She has a powerful rear. At the moment is moving downhill. Very pleasing head.

3 MONSTER INC JUSTYNE HAF

RES GEALMARQUE SWEET SYMPHONY

GRADUATE BITCH

1 BRACHAN WOLF MOON

2 KILLOUGHERY KHAOS This was a lovely bitch, but she is not helping herself in the ring. She has good overall great shape and is well proportioned. Nicely balanced front to rear and length to height. A beautiful head. She is a bit straight in pastern. Not moving as well as she could.

3 HYDEBECK DREAM OF LERELEI AT LAOISEACH This female was long and tall. The front on this girl needs more angulation and is set too far forward, so she is lacking forechest. Also straight in pastern. She is a bit long in the back which weakens her topline. Paddles her front feet on the move.

POST GRADUATE BITCH

1 NEWDIGATE DORIS DAY This is a large girl with a beautiful shape. She has great bone, and is nicely balanced front to rear and length to height. She is a good mover and uses her attributes nicely when gaiting.

2 GLYDAS GOLD MOTH Presents as a big and powerful female. She has good bone and is strong all the way through. A bit short in upper arm. She looks nice on the go around, but could be sounder coming and going.

3 CLANLILY DIAMOND DUST This bitch has a good shape and presents a nice outline. Adequate bone, nicely balanced. She has a powerful rear assembly. Could use more reach and drive as she moves.

RES GLENAIL HHATTIE

VHC KILMACDUAGH AEDNAT

LIMIT BITCH

1 HYDEBECK DREAM OF DREAMS This bitch was stunning. She is so beautifully proportioned with good bone, height and length of body. Her outline was what I want to see with smooth curves from her long neck into a solid topline, and nicely rounded croup. She is well balanced and shown in great condition. A powerful girl. All of her details, head, ears, expression, dark pigment are lovely. Free and easy on the move with excellent reach and drive. Looks like she would excel in the field. BITCH CC, BEST IN SHOW; BROOD BITCH CUP; BEST HEAD, EYES & EXPRESSION, BEST LIMIT

2 BARRASSY'S COPYRIGHT JW A little too much rise over the loin. She is a bit weak in the pasterns. Used herself well on the move and gaits easily around the ring.

3 BARONGLEN MISS MATILDA A bitch of great size with a typical outline. She appears nicely balanced front assembly to rear quarters, and length to height. She has a good forechest and nice long, strong neck. A bit straight in pastern. Not showing any enthusiasm for moving at all. Yet she is sound.

RES MANEATER VON DER EICHENKOPPEL

VHC GLODSWIFT SWEET DISCOVERY

OPEN BITCH

1 FLOYDIAN SAVANNA This bitch has a lovely outline. She is strong and powerful looking. I especially liked her forequarters with a good, strong neck flowing smoothly into her topline. Good forechest. Lovely head and ears. She moves well – soundly and easily she powered around the ring. An athletic girl who looks able to hunt.

2 DUKESARUM LILYBET This bitch was of adequate size and bone. Good outline. She has very powerful hindquarters, which seemed to overpower her front assembly on the move, making her look like was moving downhill. She was a bit lazy on the move, and could use more reach and drive.

3 WOLFHOUSE DAVINIAH OF WOLVEBRIGG This a long and tall female with adequate bone. She has a lovely front assembly, including flexibility in her pasterns. Somewhat flat in the topline and could use more breadth and strength to her rear quarters. She is well proportioned and moved satisfactorily, but without enthusiasm.

CHAMPION BITCH

1 CH CAREDIG DESTINY This quality bitch had a typical outline. Neck flowing smoothly into a solid topline, and a well rounded croup. She exudes power and this is demonstrated in her smooth, strong stride on the move. She could have been a little sounder in front coming at me. Overall, she has many great qualities that lead me to believe she could catch and dispatch her prey. RESERVE BITCH CC, RESERVE BEST IN SHOW

2 CH SADE RAINBOW This is a large bitch, with great bone and size; great length to her and commensurate height. A bit straight in pastern. Well balanced overall and powerful. On the move she was satisfactory, but not as free and easy as the winner of the class.

3 CH DUKESARUM CHIARA This bitch has good size, shape and proportions. Good bone. A lovely, typical head. Strong neck. Moved satisfactorily but could use more reach and drive on the go around.

BITCH CC

HYDEBECK DREAM OF DREAMS

RESERVE BITCH CC

CH CAREDIG DESTINY

BEST PUPPY BITCH

GAELMARQUE TREASURED BY GOLDSWIFT

BEST IN SHOW

HYDEBECK DREAM OF DREAMS

RESERVE BEST IN SHOW

CH CAREDIG DESTINY

BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX IN SHOW

CH SADE PARIS

BEST PUPPY IN SHOW

GAELMARQUE TREASURED BY GOLDSWIFT

BEST VETERAN IN SHOW

CH RAVENSBEECH REVENIO WHITEORCHARD

BEST RESERVE CC WINNER IN SHOW

CH CAREDIG DESTINY