

Thank you to the committee for inviting me to judge Rhodesian Ridgebacks at your well run show. I was delighted with my entry of 31 hounds and felt truly spoiled at the quality of each and every dog. Thank you to all who supported my entry and for allowing me the privilege and pleasure of judging four such superb classes.

### **Class 75 Junior Dog or Bitch (8/2)**

1, Kitoko Wherever You Go Eiko, Miss S Nix A well presented 14 month old male with a clean outline and a free, easy, straightforward gait. Masculine head with excellent expression, excellent breadth and length of muzzle, good ear set. A strong neck with excellent insertion into withers leading to strong topline, standing firm on the stack, and all carried well on the move. Well placed shoulder, enough front fill, good depth of chest and length of ribbing, stands on correct legs with elbows nicely underneath him, correct pasterns and super feet, good first and second thigh, nicely turned stifle, strong hocks, pleasing croup and tail set. A delight to watch on the move, beautifully handled and at one with his handler.

2, Chagall Akua, Mr C Brown and Ms E McIntosh, A very similar stamp to 1, slightly heavier all over. A strong head, with striking black mask complimented by his dark sparkling eyes, perfect ear set with breadth and length to his muzzle. I found his head and neck carried a little too high on the day - making his neck insertion appear too steep to show off his splendid outline. He has excellent front fill and a correctly placed pro sternum. Excellent depth of chest, pleasing length of ribbing and adequate loin. Strong first and second thigh, pleasing turn of stifle, strong hocks, good tail set a strong, correctly tapered tail. A handsome hound who I will watch with interest as he develops.

3, 184 Mirengo s Musola at Kamili. Mrs L S Maylor

4, 189 Diamondridge De Niro. Mr A R and Mrs A Murphy

5, 173, Walamadegie Milady Luck. 8 month old red wheaten puppy bitch with beautiful dark eyes, feminine head with good proportions and lovely generous ears. A good length of neck. Nicely placed shoulder with a lovely length to her upper arm allowing her plenty of reach. Good length of ribbing and a neat tuck up. A nicely developing rear end with pleasing amount of muscle already showing. She moved freely and I m sure in time will mature to do very well. Unlucky to not be showing in a Puppy Class today and up against so many more mature youngsters. BPIB.

### **Class 76 Post Graduate Dog or Bitch (6/2)**

1, 177 Nuthouse Hot Stuff, Mrs S and Mr J Hicks. 15 month old bitch instantly appealing on the eye with good overall proportions. She has kind eyes and lovely expression, a feminine head, good length of neck flowing into well placed shoulders. Excellent length and return of upper arm which enabled her beautiful extension when viewed from the side. Good length of ribbing, clean tuck up, pleasing first and second thigh and a nice turn of stifle with good hocks allowing her to match her front movement with balance and drive from behind.

2, 166 Gabisa Spotted Dick, Miss L Aitken and Mr I Reid. Striking 4 year old male with clean head, good ear set, dark eye showing plenty of character. Strong neck of pleasing length flowing into the best front assembly of the day - beautifully placed shoulders with corresponding length and return of upper arm. Excellent length of ribbing, good strong loin, correct tailset and croup, balanced angles to the rear with good turn of stifle, strong hocks and tight feet. A magnificent hound with excellent bone, but carrying a little excess weight on the day.

3, 170 Neelanjali Jay Monrow. Mrs D C and Mr M G Cann

### **Class 77 Open Dog (11/1)**

An exceptional class of 10 superb exhibits.

1, 167 Ch Sonstraal Chocolate Storm ShCM. Miss L Aitken and Mr I Reid. This splendid 9 year old hound standing true on superb feet with correct length to height proportions and excellent bone. He has a handsome head with majestic expression, dark eyes, perfect ear set, wonderful breadth and depth to his muzzle and a pleasing width at the cheek. He has a lovely arch to his neck, well placed shoulders, and corresponding length and return of upper arm. Excellent front fill, excellent length of ribbing with a strong, correct length loin. His angles are balanced front to rear where he has good first and second thigh, good turn of stifle and strong hocks. On the move he pulls it all together to demonstrate a powerful, clean easy action, and carries himself allowing an excellent character, who s at one with his handler, to shine forth. Pushed the BOB winner all the way, only showing the very first sign of tiredness (after a show busy, hot weekend) on his final go around. RBOB.

2, 194 Rozelridge Who The Man ShCM. Miss J Pyke. A 5 year old dog of excellent type, displaying correct proportions of length to height, with good bone. Not dissimilar in many ways to 1, he stands

true on his feet forming a striking outline, with balanced angles front and rear, clean through the shoulder with excellent depth to his chest and length of ribbing. He stands with his elbows well under him. A good first and second thigh, he has a particularly pleasing turn of stifle and well let down hocks. On the move he has a strong, generous action with plenty of reach and good, strong drive. Not quite as settled as I've seen him due to a change of handler, but none the less a superb example of our breed.

3, 172 Faahac Free N easy JW. Mr H and Mrs C L Catharell

### **Class 78 Open Bitch (7/2)**

1, 193 Ch Trendsetter Jani For Azuli Sh. CM Ms J Parker. A bitch I have long admired from the ringside, who at close quarters displayed all the character of a bitch in her prime, with clean lines and so easy on the eye. Moderate but strong, excellent bone, with correct length to height proportions. A feminine head with kind eyes that didn't leave her handlers face whilst on the stack, showing a determined nature and excellent temperament. Good strong neck flowing to well placed shoulders and a good front assembly. Excellent length of ribbing with a lovely tuck up to a strong loin. Her rear assembly matching her front with an excellent first and 2nd thigh, lovely turn of stifle and well let down hocks. She carried it all on the move with a clean easy action and displayed a beautiful outline carrying her well placed tail correctly behind her. She didn't miss a step or a free stack, and enchanted me all the way to award her a worthy BOB.

2, 196 Neelanjali Premier Rose At Llongwe. Mr D K and Mrs J L Smith. This seven year old bitch was a pleasure to judge, she exuded a gentle feminine character, but had a hint of mischief in her dark sparkling eyes which are set in a clean feminine head with good ear set, with good length and depth of muzzle. She has a good length of neck, inserted smoothly into her withers. A lovely pro sternum and pleasing angles front and rear. A lovely length to her body with a good run of ribbing, clean tuck up and good loin. She moved steadily and made good use of the undulation in the ring.

3, 171 Kitoko Mabel. Mrs C and Miss M Catharell.

Kim Hodge.