

South West Hound Club 29th May 2017

Critique

I would like to thank the committee for inviting me to judge at this show and to my steward for keeping my ring in order throughout the day. I would also like to thank the exhibitors who stayed after the Bath Championship show despite the weather not being kind to us. I thoroughly enjoyed my judging of this eclectic group of hounds.

Otterhound:

Special Yearling (1 entry)

1st. Lewis's Ottaryx Phaedra. 22 month old black and tan bitch of smaller proportions with a feminine head and good eye shape. Well placed ears of sufficient length. Good neck into strong shoulders, sufficient bone for her size. Good feet. Balanced length of rib and strong loin. Moved very soundly in profile, a touch looser behind but still a young hound.

Open (3 entries)

1st. Lewis's Ottaryx Mumford. Majestic young male who still has plenty more to come. Masculine head with an excellent eye shape. Good ears of sufficient length. Strong neck into well placed shoulders. Good bone and feet. Well ribbed with plenty of heart and lung room, strong loin and in good muscle. Excellent coat texture. Moved with a free springy gait being sound in profile and on the up and back. An upstanding male with plenty to like and once through his teenage stage will mature into something special I am sure. Best of breed.

2nd. McConville's Ottaryx Mulberry

3rd. McConville's Ottaryx Olivia

Bloodhound:

Special Yearling (1 entry)

1st. Jone's Harvidene Devil in Disguise. Sole entry today and a dog I admire very much having given him best in show at the club open show a few months ago. Handsome male of good proportions with a balanced skull and good clean eye. Good ears of sufficient length and correctly set. Strong neck into well placed shoulders with good tight elbows and sufficient bone throughout. Excellent feet. Good rib length and a nice strong loin. A quality dog who today was unfortunately a bit spooked having been set upon by some dachshunds earlier in the show. He really did not move as well as I have seen him and didn't get his tail up at all. I really hope with a bit of time and patience he can get through this as bloodhounds can be a sensitive breed and this boy is an excellent example. Best of breed.

Ibizan Hound:

Limit (2 entries)

1st. Carter's Afilador Room on the Broom. Bitch of elegant proportions and good type. Feminine head with good eye shape. OK ears, could be used better. Good length of neck, shoulders correctly placed. Good length of rib and correct depth of chest for the breed. Good feet. Moderate rear angulation which gave her the more typical movement of the two in this class.

2nd. Carter's Afilador Thunderbolt

Open Dog (2 entries)

1st. Carter and Hozempa's Ch Amahte Runnin On Jamaican Time (Imp) JW ShCM. Handsome dog with excellent head qualities, correct almond shape eyes and good ears. Strong muscular neck going into correctly placed shoulders with good straight upper arms. Correct depth of chest for the breed with good length of rib. This dog is a touch longer in loin than I would prefer and a little more angulated at the rear than I would like, he is however extremely sound on the move but has a tendency to drive from the rear more than hover. He is a wonderful show dog though with real personality using his ears and expression to his benefit. He is presented in exemplary condition being well muscled and with a gleaming coat. I had a real dilemma when choosing best of breed as preferred the open bitch winner for overall type however this boy had the edge on soundness which had to be taken into account. Best of breed but truly splitting hairs between the two.

2nd. Carter and Channon's Afilador Moonlight Shadow ShCM

Open Bitch (4 entries, 1 absent)

1st. Carter's Diecisiete Mandarina at Afilador ShCM. Really loved this bitch for overall type with an excellent head and eye shape. Excellent lean muscular neck going into very correct shoulders and balanced upper arm. Excellent feet. Good depth of chest with strong short loin and prominent pin bones. Moderate angulation at the rear which gave her a much more typical movement showing evidence of the ever desired hover. This bitch at 12 years old is in unbelievably good condition and shows how long these hounds can last and when going over her I could have easily knocked five years of her age. On the move, although much more typical than the other dogs entered her age did show however being ever so slightly unsound in front when viewed in profile. I did give her every chance to correct herself but the open dog had the soundness on the day. Beautiful bitch to look at and one I could easily own, unbelievable that she was never made a champion. Reserve best of breed.

2nd. Hall's Afilador Pandemonium

3rd. Carter and Channon's Afilador a Hint of Jasmine.

Norwegian Elkhound

Post Graduate (6 entries, 3 absent)

1st. Maun's Bowerhinton Brouhaha. I felt this young dog offered the most balance in this class. Beautiful wedge shaped head with excellent eye shape and good prick ears. Strong neck going into good front construction. Excellent rib length with good short loin making

him super square in outline. Lovely tightly curled tail set correctly. Good feet and sufficient bone throughout. Moved soundly with convergence when coming and going. This dog has all the qualities I was looking for in balance and construction, still a youngster I imagine he has plenty more to give. In the challenge didn't put a foot wrong and gave a beautiful picture, happy to award best of breed.

2nd. Hodkinson's Grasilva Garlieston at Thordell

3rd. Eave's-Paull's Grasilva's Eric's Gift

Open (6 entries, 1 absent)

1st. Gilbert's Rothernberg Nanya for Balsemasi. Quality bitch, another with beautiful head and expression, strong underjaw and good ears. Solid sloping shoulders with strong straight front legs and good bone. Nice feet. Good ribbing with a strong short loin giving a square outline. Good tail. Very sound on the move. Sadly in the challenge was a little lethargic and dropped her tail spoiling the overall picture however completely on par for quality to the dog.

2nd. Mortimer's Laakso Allgolds Special One

3rd. Crossley's Crossridge Came alone

Basenji

Special Yearling (2 entries)

1st. Gaskell's Memetuka Cream of the Crop. Quality 6 month old male, super square in outline. Very good head proportions with excellent eye shape, short muzzle and good wrinkle. Wonderful crested neck with well placed shoulders. Excellent topline, good tail and evident shelf. Excellent feet. Moderate rear angulation. A quality puppy of excellent breed type who just lacked the maturity and togetherness in movement of the open winner. One I will be keeping my eye on. Very happy to award best puppy.

Open (6 entries)

My first three in this class were all top quality and could easily have swapped places on different days.

1st. Clinton's Westlawn Diablo. Quality Tri Coloured dog with a masculine head, excellent eye shape and a balanced muzzle to skull. Very square outline with lovely short loin. Excellent tail with good shelf, moderate rear angulation and good feet. A little heavier in type than I would usually go for His sound typical free swinging movement today excelled him and he really stood out in this class. Very happy to award best of breed today. His owner told me afterwards that he currently has two CCs, I wish them all the luck in gaining his third.

2nd. Richardson and Wood's Woodella Purple Haze over Cooperland. Another quality tri colour who I have done well in the past. Excellent breed type with a beautiful feminine head and almond eye. Good ears, balanced front and giving a good square outline on the stand.

Good tail. The ring today was much too small to see her movement at its best unfortunately so had to settle for second behind the dog who seemed to manage better. One I still love. Reserve best of breed.

3rd. Stewart's Ch Faraoland Miss Flirtation (Swed imp)

Sloughi

What this breed does not have in numbers it certainly makes up for in quality. I was very impressed with my entry of this breed that I have always admired, I would have loved to have assessed them in a bigger ring.

Open Dog (3 entries)

Three quality hounds all of excellent breed type

1st. Smith's Dutch Bel Int Ch Sahsheer Sandara. Sand dog of heavier type with good masculine head and eye shape with well placed ears. Strong neck going into well placed flat shoulders with balanced upper arm. Good length of rib with a strong short loin. Prominent hip bones and moderate rear angulation. Had the edge on the other two in movement today in this class managing the smaller ring. A quality hound.

2nd. Porteous-Thompson's Lizanthe Al Zakuri ShCM

3rd. Bamford's D'jalal-mansour at Doo cloone D'al Mahdi (Imp)

Open Bitch (4 entries)

1st. Bamford's Doo cloone Dounia Fareedat. Stunning black mantle with sand points bitch of excellent breed type. Text book head piece of good proportions with large oval eyes, the sad wistful expression I was looking for and well placed ears. Strong elegant neck with correctly set shoulder blades with plenty of muscle. Good depth of chest with enough rib and good short strong loin. Excellent feet. This bitch was shown in absolutely gleaming condition and had the edge on the movement of the others in the class. In the challenge her breed type really won me over. Best of breed.

2nd. Porteous Thompson's Lizanthe Al Zulika

3rd. Chapman-Damms Int Ch Sahsheer Shiana Khali

David Knights (Lelaps)