

**West Mercia Beagle Club**  
**Championship Show – 7/11/21**

Firstly I would like to thank my super efficient steward, Helen, for keeping things running smoothly.

.It is some considerable time since I judged the breed and I am sorry to have to write that I found depth of quality, in the males particularly, sadly lacking. Two areas I would like to elaborate on are heads and movement.

Where have the soft melting expressions disappeared to? I found doggy heads on bitches, light eyes, tear stains, frown and high ear sets, all detracting from the correct appealing expression.

When moving, a good number of hounds were very accurate on the 'out and back' but failing in forward reach and drive from the rear in profile. I place a lot of emphasis on profile movement as this is where, I believe, the correctly constructed hounds will excel.

On a better note I found no bad temperaments, incorrect bites or kinky tails and I have to commend the owners of the veteran and vintage exhibits on their dogs' clean teeth.

I believe the hounds would have benefitted from having a mat on the floor as some of the pups and veterans were quite unsure of their footing.

**Minor Puppy Dog (3,0)**

1.Raymond's DAVRICARD MILTON at DIALYNNE (Ai) Naf Taf. –8.5 month tan boy with the most lovely head, dark eye and low set leathers. He is a very raw pup at the moment and was not fully cooperating with his handler but he has all the essentials. He doesn't want to grow on much more and needs to tighten up in movement. I hope it all comes together as I fell for him... BPD and BPIS

2.Findlay and Findlay's RHICONICH OBCONICA –6 month baby who needs to grow in confidence. He is shorter coupled than 1, with pleasing angles front and rear and a level topline with stern correctly set on. Preferred the head on my first place but look forward to seeing this one again when he has got his act together.

3.Stevenson-Bramley's WYVISVIEW KINGFISHER

**Puppy Dog (1,0)**

1. Hunt and Ford's BONDLEA WOODLARK – A heavier set boy all through and rather long in body. He has well angulated quarters and topline and set on are good.. He moves true in front but toes in with his right rear when going away. Hopefully this will strengthen, given time.

**Junior Dog (1,0)**

1.Parker and Stevens' SERENAKER ARMANI -Very smart, short coupled young man with good bone right down to his tight feet. He has balanced angulation which enables him to move with accuracy, however I would prefer more extension in front . He has a good head with

soft expression and makes a pleasing picture on the stack. Very well handled to get the best from him.

### **Yearling Dog (4,1)**

This was a difficult class to judge as all three were unsettled. My 3<sup>rd</sup> had the soundest movement but wouldn't get his tail up.

1. Bell-Thomas and Thomas' AMORPAPAVER JUPITER - This boy was of good type who showed himself to advantage once he settled.. He has a decent turn of stifle and straight , strong topline. His head has a pleasing expression and dark eye, I think he just needs more confidence.

2. Tofts' JARROWLEY TOLPUDDLE – Only just held it together. He is a quality dog with a very good headpiece showing the softness I was looking for. He has strong bone, nice tight feet and a level topline. However he lacked sparkle and didn't seem too happy. I feel he might be a dog who would prefer to show outside.

3. Ferguson's LILLIPAW DOUGLAS

### **Novice Dog (1,0)**

1. Bondlea Woodlark

### **Post Graduate Dog (4,1)**

1. Stoddard's POPPYVILLE FIRST EDITION –I liked this dog, he had the scope I was looking for. He is slightly long in loin but is still balanced. He moved out with purpose showing forward reach and extension in profile. His head is not as appealing as my 2<sup>nd</sup> but he well deserved his first place.

2. Wright and Mitchell's HUNTSHILL UP TO TROUBLE –Totally different type to 1. This one is much more compact and I liked his head, eye and ear set. Good neck into a level topline and correct set on. Moved very accurately but hasn't got the extension of my first which was the decider..

3. Amorpapaver Jupiter.

### **Limit Dog (7,0)**

1. Henningsson-Dundas' JULEMARK LUTHER –Presented a pleasing picture when stacked with reachy neck, good shoulder placement and level topline. He is longer cast than my second but moved out well. Stands on good legs and feet which were placed well under him. Well handled

2. Fraser's WYVISVIEW PINOCCHIO – I preferred this ones head to my first place and many of the same remarks apply. He has moderate angles from and rear, giving balance and he moved very accurately. He has well manicured feet and excellent presentation, just felt the topline on no.1 was slightly better. Close decision here.

3. Woodcock's MOLESEND VERDICT at RODDWOOD

### **Open Dog (5,1)**

The first two in this class are both outstanding examples of the breed although different in type. I thought my second place would be my winner until the final run around when no.1 moved with greater animation.

1. Raymond's Ch & Vdh Ch DIALYNNE PETER PIPER – Stallion hound who was put down to perfection, hard to believe he will be a veteran next year. Correct head proportions with a true soft expression, outline flowed from neck to topline with no humps or bumps, correct tail set and carriage. Well angulated quarters which he used to drive round the ring. Front bang on. A lovely dog to go over. DCC and RBIS.

2. Craig's CH DAVRICARD JACOB (Ai) –Gorgeous head with low set ears framing the face, dark eye and pigmentation. Reachy neck into level topline and correctly carried stern. He is moderately angled and has perfect balance. Very accurate in movement also, but not the verve of No.1 RCC

3. Wright and Mitchell's HUNTS HILL TORNADO

### **Veteran Dog (4,1)**

1. Stoddard's DIALYNNE COVER STORY – seven year old who is just my cup of tea, sound and scopey on the move. He is a shade long cast this doesn't detract from a pleasing outline. He has a kind head and eye enhanced by a little grey which softens the expression.

2. Phillips and Keyte's LANESSEND SEGENHOE JW Sh CM –Another with a soft head and expression. Dog of a smaller more compact mould who moved accurately but was a little hesitant on the run around possibly due to the slightly slippery floor. 8 years young.

3. Thornton's Ch NEDLAW BENEDICT with MAPLELAYNE JW

### **Special Vintage Dog (1,0)**

1. Roderick's BARTERHOUND GARRISON – Alone but a worthy winner. What a grand old gentleman for his 11 years still sound as a pound and enjoying every minute of his day out. Melting head and expression with the darkest of eyes and great topline for his age. He was presented in pristine condition. Delighted to award him BVD and subsequently BVIS.

### **Special Beginners Dog (2,1)**

Poppyville First Edition. I have already commented but was pleased to award him B Sp. Beginners in Show.

### **Minor Puppy Bitch (8,0)**

1. Craig's DAVRICARD MARCIA (Ai) –Headed a very nice class of babies. A well put together puppy who won the class on her head and expression – totally feminine with no sign of coarseness. Stands on the best of legs and feet with level topline and correct tailset. Still needs to settle in front movement but has time on her side. BPB RBPIS

2.Havard's ANNAVAH PRINCESS TIANA – Another lovely puppy, more compact than 1. She has a super shape with excellent rear angulation and again strong bone and tight feet. Extremely accurate mover but not quite the scope of my first.

3.Richmond's CONOWINDRA NORTHERN DANCER – Really like this puppy but at just 6 months giving away a lot in maturity. Will watch her progress with interest.

### **Puppy Bitch (6,0)**

1.Thornton's JULEMARK PRIMROSE at MAPLELAYNE-Liked the type of this one, very pretty head with dark eye and good pigment for her colour. Balanced angulation allowed her to move out accurately which she did with animation. Doesn't want to grow on any more though.

2.Lennard's BUTTEROW TOKEN – Wormanlike bitch who showed herself off on a loose lead. She is soundly constructed and coped well moving on the slightly slippery floor which upset a few of the pups. One that has to be handled to be appreciated as she doesn't immediately catch the eye.

3.Evans and Barnes' BELLVALLEY BRYNHILD .

### **Junior Bitch (3,0)**

1.Havard's ANNAVAH BUTTERCUP – A lovely bitch from all angles and a very worthy Champion. She is compact in build with correct angulation front and back. She is spot on in front movement and has driving action from behind. If I had to be super critical I would like to see a more relaxed tail carriage but this does not detract from the overall picture of quality.

2.Evans and Barnes' BELLVALLEY LAGERTHA – Still a puppy and was giving a lot away in maturity. She is an accurate mover and has a pretty head with low set leathers. However her outline is spoiled by carrying way too much weight. I think she would benefit from cutting her food back which would make her outline more refined.

3.Griffin's CLARISMORE TWIST AND SHOUT.

### **Yearling Bitch (5,1)**

1.ANNAVAH STAR ABOVE MADIKA –Extremely well schooled young lady who was shown to her best advantage. She has a pleasing head shape with low set leathers, although her eye could be a shade darker. Moved out confidently with very sound front action. Stands on good legs and feet set well under her.

2.Findlay's RHICONICH ROCK ROSE – Difficult one to assess as she was not fully cooperating with her handler. However she is of good shape with level topline and correct tailset. I feel I only caught glimpses of the real dog but when I did there was a lot to like.

3.Hardisty's EARDLEY TALKING IN TEXAS with BLUNDERHALL .

### **Novice Bitch (7,2)**

1. Raymond's DIALYNNE BONNY TYLER – Won this class on head properties. Striking bitch of good size and shape with an excellent turn of stifle. When she gains in confidence will trouble the best. At present a bit unsteady on the move and rear end still needs to strengthen. Immaculate presentation.

2. Julemark Princess with Maplelayne

3. Stoddard's LIL BIJOU KROLEWSKA ZGRAJA.

### **Post Graduate Bitch (12,4)**

1. Henningsson -Dundas' JULEMARK LOLITA – Little to separate the first two. I really like this sound well made bitch, nothing exaggerated about her. Complementing angulation gave her a balanced appearance. Attractive head properties and decent neck, however she could do with a pedicure. On the move she really caught my eye and was one of the best for reach and drive in profile. Could well have been considered for further honours but refused to get her tail up in the challenge.

2. Deans' GEMPENI CORNFLOWER – A very well made bitch who showed on a loose lead, so nice to see. She presents a clean outline with excellent flow from neck into shoulders and topline, legs well under and good feet. Movement is so sound out and back but on the go around she couldn't match the extension of No.1.

3. Wright and Mitchell's HUNTS HILL USUAL SUSPECT.

### **Limit Bitch (17,1)**

A super class where many of good quality went cardless.

1. Tanner's FELINOAK MY DELILAH – Not a flashy one and has to be handled to appreciate her quality. Lovely flowing outline from neck, through shoulders to topline. Tail set and carriage as they should be. She has a pleasing head with the desired soft expression and moved true showing good extension in profile. RCC

2. Fraser's WYVISVIEW PORCELAIN – Another sound girl who pleased me with her movement and this is what gained her her place. She is nicely put together and showed steadily and with confidence. However I would prefer a darker eye and more feminine head to complete the picture.

3. Findlay's RHICONICH BETTY BOTTER.

### **Open Bitch (7,2)**

1. Craig's Ch BAYARD GLORY BEE – My notes say 'Perfect' and there really is nothing I would change about her. She has a stunning headpiece, body proportions are textbook. Tail carriage spot on. She moved with total accuracy and stepped up a gear on the run around. Correct size and happy temperament. I think she should have a very bright future indeed. BCC and BIS

2.Havard's ANNAVAH LADY GAGA – I liked this bitch a lot and can't understand why she hasn't gained her crown yet, although I am sure she will. Classic head with dark pigment and eye colour and low set leathers. Lovely shape on the stack and moved out with purpose covering the ground well.

3.Parker and Stevens' Ch SERENAKER MAID IN AMERICA.

### **Veteran Bitch (5,0)**

1.Brown's Ch RAIMEX BRITTANY – 8 year old who still shows fine form. In excellent condition for her age. A well proportioned bitch with the desired soft expression. Moved very soundly with animation.

2.Miller's ARPEGE ALKIRA – I liked this girl despite the fact she wasn't in top condition having not quite recovered from maternal duties. She is very well made with good neck, shoulders and topline. Moved with accuracy and purpose.

3.Deans GEMPENI FLOWER GIRL JW ShCM.

### **Special Vintage Bitch (3,0)**

There really was very little to split these three lovely older girls

1.Webster's MOONJOON SWEET NOTHINGS JW Sh CM – At 11 years still showing a clean pair of heels on the move. On the big side but very well proportioned with good head properties and totally at one with her handler. Pleased to award her BVB

2.Brown's RAIMEX ROWANBERRY – 12 years young and not too confident about the floor but did enough to show that she is true in movement. She has a pleasing head, reachy neck and well placed shoulders. Another in lovely condition for her age.

3. Hunt and Norris' SHERCROFT DUCHESS JW ShCM.

### **Special Beginners Bitch (7,0)**

1.Arpege Alkira

2.Stoddard's LIL BIJOU KROLEWSKA ZGRAJA – Stylish girl with a very good outline on the stack. Good length of neck and level topline. Tailset and carriage as they should be. Well let down hocks. Very sound front movement but moving rather close behind today.

3.Eldabe's DAVRICARD BELLADONNA FOR ROSAMAX.

Liz Calikes (judge).