

CRUFTS Championship Show 8TH MARCH 2019

DOGS

Thank you to the Crufts committee for inviting me to judge at this prestigious show & to my two hardworking stewards who kept the ring running smoothly throughout the day, also thank you to those who entered, unfortunately there were a few really nice dogs who had to go home without a card.

VD (17,4a) 1 Rutterford`S Ch Kelgrove Just Blue At Stormhead JW SHCM Handsome Blue boy who just seems to get better with age, nice head good ears, good length of neck, balanced throughout, correct overall shape and moved freely both ways and with my co judges approval was Best Veteran. 2 Goodwin`s Ch Highbrook Hot Heir JW Shaded Sable & White an old favourite who was unlucky to meet the first one in such good form, he had well moulded head and neat ears giving the desired expression, well boned, soundly constructed and in good coat as always he moved soundly both ways. 3 Brady`s Ch Francehill Two Tone.

MPD (2) 1 Fisher`s Shellamoyed Black Klansman. Tri youngster who wasn`t sure he wanted to move on the green carpet but when he did he moved true both ways, he is good for size with a nice head, neat ears, good expression nicely proportioned and with a good coat for his age. 2 Rutterford`s Kelgrove Midsummer Blue At Stormhead, lovely coloured Blue Merle youngster with good length of neck, nice expression and good body shape showing his lovely outline when stood, just needs to mature.

PD (4) 1 Walker`s Tooralie`s Ochos Rios S/W who is good for size, he had a good wedge shaped head, used ears well, good length of neck, nicely angulated throughout and moved soundly. 2 Aaron`s Mistmere Masterpiece For Shelridge S/W. Nice head with neat well placed eyes and ears, soundly constructed with good front and nice sweep over loin and well coated for age, moved well and stood four square. 3 Rutterford`s Kelgrove Midsummer Blue At Stormhead.

JD (10,1a) 1 Goodwin`s Highbrook Hobnob S/W Lovely sized lad with good substance, nice expression, neat well used ears, lovely reach of neck, straight front with good rear angulation, in good coat, he moved true and covered the ground with plenty of drive from the rear and stood and showed well. 2 Moore`s Jacanshe Be Our Guest At Santiara Tri with good head, flat skull and neat ears which he used well, straight front and nice rear angulation, he moved steadily, could do with a little more coat to finish him. 3. Hull`s Mohnesee's Dream Date Of Lizmark.

YD (16,2) 1 Andersson` Lt Ch Frostice Makeover DKJUCH DK JV/18 FI JV/18 FI V/18 KBH JV/18 Ideally coloured B/M, excellent head, correctly placed ears which he used well, nice length of neck, good front and lovely sweep over rear, really came into his own on the move, good forward reach enabled him to cover the ground with ease. Pressed hard in the challenge but would just like him a little more masculine. 2 Jacob`s & Johnson`s Willowthorn Dream Gazer JW SHCM Glamorous Shaded Sable, good head, neat well used ears, nice reach of neck set into good shoulders, with sweep over rear, moved steadily. Stood four square and showed nicely. 3 Mcdonagh`s Karyshanty Tir Na Nog.

GD (16,1) 1 Chatterley`s Silver Coin B/M. Slightly heavily marked in places but has a lovely overall shape and size and is balanced throughout, he has good bone, correct head, well used ears, nice length of neck, lovely sweep over loin, strode out well and moved soundly both ways. 2 Mile`s Milesend Morello Shaded Sable of similar size and bone to 1 just not quite the length of neck, in good coat he was soundly constructed throughout, had a good head, nice shaped eye and neat ears and moved well. 3 Mottram's Lanteague Gold Sovereign At Lochkaren JW.

PGD (13,2) 1 Stafford`s Rannerdale Lord Fawltly. Sable & white, in good coat and condition with well moulded head good shaped eye and neat ears, straight front, level topline he moved out well. 2 Goodwin`s Highbrook He's Got Style JW Showy sable & white with lovely head and expression, nice length of neck, nice body proportions and was a steady mover. 3 Daniels & Taylor Pepperhill Cruise Control.

ML (6,1a) 1 Higgin`s Pluto Gintarine Sala At Cearthall JD JCH, attractive BM with neat head and well used ears, nice length of neck with level topline and good body proportions, he moved freely. 2 Mottram`s Middy Sun At Lochkaren JW. Attractive Sable & white with a lovely head and expression, good for size, he was well made throughout, just thought 1 moved more freely and had more drive. 3 Moody`s Janetstown Josses Hill.

L (12,3a) 1 Stafford`s Rannerdale The Entertainer. Plain sable and white with an excellent harsh coat, he had lovely head with well filled foreface, nice shaped eye and neat ears, good length of neck, well-proportioned throughout and stood four square to show off his lovely shape. 2 Edward`s Castlerose Star Turn JW SHCM. Tri with a gleaming black coat of good texture, nice head, straight front and good should angulation, level topline and was balanced throughout he moved soundly both ways. 3 Linford`s Hillhenry Thunderstorm JW.

O (22,2a) 1 Hill's Ch/Aust Ch Hartly How About Me For Molson (IMP AUS) A quality Sable and white dog throughout he had a well filled foreface, nice eye and neatly tipped ears, an elegantly arched neck, correctly placed shoulder with lovely sweep over the loin. He had a good textured coat presented in immaculate condition and his movement was a joy to watch with his single tracking and excellent driving from the rear. With my co judges approval was pleased to award him BOB. 2 Bray's Ch Lianbray Lothario JW Sable and white in good coat he had a well moulded head and neat ears, nice length of neck, good body proportions with nice bend of stifle he moved soundly both ways. RDCC. 3 Robinson's Ch Lavika Luminary JW.

GOOD CIT (8) 1 French's Lindfern Light Sabre JW Attractive golden sable and white, with lovely head pattern, neat ears and good length of neck, nicely made throughout with a level topline and correct sweep over rear, he was nicely angulated and moved out well. 2 Woolley's Pepperhill In The Moment At Valjon. Tri with a good harsh coat in gleaming condition, he has a good head with nice expression, is well constructed throughout with good bone and moved soundly. 3 Bastiani & John's Faitmoirever Jocker

Judge - M E Botham

BITCHES

I was delighted to receive such a numerically strong entry and looked forward to my day at Crufts. However, at the end of the day I had many concerns regarding the future of our beautiful breed and the retaining of true quality and breed type. I was looking for Shelties with a beautiful elegant and graceful outline, correct body length with good reach of neck, well angulated to enable them to move freely with good extension in front and drive from behind holding a lovely level top line. Sadly these were hard to find. We have been banging on about construction for as long as I can remember and nothing ever changes. But now my main concern was with heads, where is the long blunt wedge with correct stop, parallel planes, flat skull and smoothly moulded one piece head with flat cheeks? So many had receding or domed skulls with stops breaking way too low with too little, or too much stop, short muzzles and protruding cheek bones. All these features are contrary to our standard. Breeders, PLEASE, think about these things now before our beautiful Sheltie just becomes a pretty fluffy little dog with no features of outstanding merit and a far cry from the lovely elegant and graceful dog that just melts your heart when you see it. Having said that, there were, of course, some lovely bitches within the entry and I was extremely pleased with my final line up and top winners. I was also very pleased to note that very few exhibits had missing teeth and thank the exhibitors for presenting their dogs in such lovely clean condition. I must also thank my two stewards John and Ray who did an excellent job in keeping everything moving and on track to enable us to finish in good time.

VB (11,1) 1. Barnett's Ch Rainway Crystal Star JW 10 year old blue merle of exceptionally lovely colour, presented in beautiful bloom and looking every bit the champion. Lovely head type with correct stop, flat skull, smooth rounded muzzle and beautifully set eye and neat ears creating the sweetest expression. Well balanced body with good length of neck, level top line and sweep over loin. Best Veteran Bitch, just lost out for best veteran to the equally lovely blue dog who had the better reach in front on the move. 2. Thomas's Ch Myter Eye to Eye JW. I have always admired this bitch having awarded her the CC in the past and she still retains all the attributes that have given her such a wonderful show career. Sound construction with good front angulation which is clear to see as she moves around the ring covering the ground with the minimum of effort. Lovely head pattern, flat skull, nicely moulded foreface and neat little ears which she uses non-stop. Today she just lacked the bloom for top honours. 3. Lycett's Ch Shebaville Saucy Secret at Illiad JW Completed a trio of three lovely veterans.

MPB (1) 1. Sapsford's Shelcrest River of Dreams Alone in the class but a very worthy winner. This bitch has a lovely elegant and well balanced body. Correct size and substance and beautifully presented. Soundly constructed front and rear was evident as she moved around the ring with good reach in front and drive from the rear. Correct wedge head with level planes, correct stop and sweet well placed eye giving the desired expression. Best puppy bitch and best puppy in breed. I will watch her career with interest.

PB (12,1) 1. Nixon's Japaro I Have a Dream Pretty sable and white bitch of correct size and substance nicely balanced throughout with good reach of neck and level top line. Nicely moulded head shape with well placed eye and topped by neat ears, creating a pretty feminine expression. Not quite the extension on the move of the minor puppy in the challenge for best puppy. 2. Robinson's Lavika Spring Queen Tri of correct size and well balanced throughout. Lovely body shape and nicely constructed front and rear. Good head type with neat ears but failed a little in sweetness of expression. Beautifully presented with lovely jet black coat. 3. Walker's Channerswick Pennywise

JB (22,1) 1. Thornley and Withers Mitchfields Fashion Girl Very soundly constructed blue with movement to match. Well balanced throughout with elegant outline she stood out in this class and was in close contention for the res CC. Correct size and substance with good legs and feet. Lovely reach of neck which enhanced her outline. Clean wedge head with just the right amount of underjaw. Lovely flat skull and smooth cheeks. Well placed dark eye with sweet feminine expression. Ears could be a tad neater but overall a very good breed type and one with a bright future I am sure. 2. Forster Parish's Lowick Mistletoe Blue with lovely colour and broken markings and rich tan. Nice for size and substance and decently constructed which was reflected in her movement. Good wedge head with sweet well placed eye, neat ears and pleasing expression. Stop could be a little more defined and a little more reach of neck would complete the picture. 3. Mitchell's Valdosta Tri Ya Luck

YB (23,2) Largest class of the day but quite disappointing in terms of quality 1. McDonald's Fearnach Making Mischief Beautifully marked merle of true blue colour. Correct reach of neck and nicely constructed body allowing her to move with freedom. Slightly shorter in head and with deeper stop but skull was flat and cheeks smooth, eyes well placed and ears neat creating a very feminine expression 2. Nixons Japaro Its All About Me Sable bitch nicely presented. Lovely clean head to handle with smooth cheeks and well rounded muzzle, flat skull, sweet almond eye well placed neat ears. Good reach of neck and level top line. Decently constructed but has a tendency to stand with her back legs a little forward so shortening her outline. 3. James Mohnesee's Mayd Marion at Valmay

GB (18,4) 1. Winfield's Carolelen Classic Star by Oakcroft JW Pretty feminine bitch of correct size and substance. Nice reach of neck and level top line Good hind quarters with nice sweep over loin and turn of stifle. A little steep in front angulation which is evident when she moves in profile. Head is nicely moulded with flat skull and nicely rounded muzzle, correct stop and well placed dark eye topped by neat well positioned ears. Beautifully presented 2. Hateley's Mohnesee Millybelle JW Similar in type to 1 and most of the same comments apply. Pretty feminine expression, neat well placed ears. Nicely balanced body lines with the right amount of substance for her correct size. Good legs and feet. 3. Whittington's Esterbon Three Kisses for Tighness JW

PGB (14,1) 1. Miles' Eljetia Hot Chocolate of Milesend Smart shaded sable bitch with lovely clean markings. Correct for size and substance with good legs and feet. Quite decently constructed but would have preferred a little more length in body to attain perfect balance. Good reach of neck and nicely balanced head qualities with pleasing expression. 2. Jackson's Keycharm Artic Queen with Gordil Blue, a little dark in colour but won her place on her body shape and balance. Decently constructed and moved accordingly. Nicely balanced head with sweet expression. Ears could be neater. 3. Wallis's Peartbrook Perle D'or **Mid LB (13,2)** 1. Robinson's Lavika Time of My Life JW Sable bitch with a lovely outline, good reach of neck, level topline, correct height to length created a picture of total balance. Construction is balanced front and rear and she moves with good reach and freedom driving well from behind. Head is a nice clean wedge with flat skull, well placed dark eye and sweet expression. I would have liked her to have a little more under jaw. Generally a lovely breed type and beautifully presented. 2. Bray's Shelridge Chantilly Lace at Lianbray JW Shaded sable bitch beautifully presented and in lovely condition. Lovely clean wedge head so smooth to handle with no exaggeration. Correct stop, flat skull lovely well place almond eye topped by neat ears. Good body lines but just lacked the front angulation and extension on the move of 1st. 3. Arnould's Shadoway Rosa Esmeralda

LB (11,1) 1. Arnould's Shadoway Perchance to Dream JW Such a nice, honest, all round little bitch. Lovely for size and balance with a good body shape well put together. Her head handles well with flat skull, correct stop and smooth cheeks and just the right amount of underjaw. To be critical her eye could be a little more almond in shape which would then enhance her expression but overall a very sound bitch. 2. Dunn's Neraklee Chardonnay at Shelleary Another sable very similar in type to the 1st and most comments apply. She had the sweeter expression of the two but not quite the extension on the move. 3. Lycett's Herds Hallicia at Illiad

OB (16,3) What a lovely class 1. Hardy's Ch Dippersmoor Joie De Vivre at Sandwick As I looked around the ring at this class and my eye fell on this beautiful bitch I felt sure I had found my ticket winner. She excels in outline and balance and from the tip of her nose to the tip of her tail she oozes quality, charm and elegance. Perfect size and bone. Angulation front and rear is correct and she moves so feely it is lovely to watch. Proud reach of neck leading to level topline and beautiful sweep over loin, shapely bend of stifle, sweeping tail and with lovely legs and feet. Her head is so pleasing to handle with no exaggeration and pure femininity. Flat skull, parallel planes, beautifully moulded foreface and smooth cheeks. Well placed dark eye with a sweet expression, often hard to achieve in a tri colour, topped by neat little ears which she used to perfection. All wrapped up in the most pristine of rich tri colour coats, to my mind she is the Sheltie of dreams. Delighted to award her the CC and for me she was the best on the day. My co-judge and I just felt the dog had more coat and finish for the group ring and I was delighted that he got shortlisted. 2. Miles' Ch Amoureye Blue Mist of Milesend Blue merle beautifully coloured and marbled and shown in excellent coat and condition. Another bitch of lovely breed type with all the attributes required to fulfil the standard. Sound construction and movement, correct head qualities

and sweet feminine expression all coming together in this top quality Sheltie. 3. Daniels and Taylor's Pepperhill Kicks 'N Flicks JW

GC (11) 1. Barnett and Hardman's Rainway Returning to Seavall JW This was not a difficult class to win as this bitch so fits the standard in every way. She is refined and elegant, every part in perfect proportion to the whole. Her head is a clean blunt wedge when viewed from the front and side with her stop in the correct place, skull flat, lips tight and cheeks smooth. Her eye is beautifully shaped and positioned blending into her lovely clean head and her ears sit beautifully to give the desired feminine expression. Bodily there is little to fault she is so well balanced and constructed and glides across the ring with such ease and style. I was not expecting her to be my res CC winner but upon close consideration against the competition she just tipped the balance. 2. French's Lindfern Bee Enchanted JW Bitch of nice breed type. Correct for size and substance with nice body shape and balance. Sweet expression created by the placement and shape of her eyes and neat ears. Good head properties. Moved quite well. 3. Moody's Janetstown Jenerous.

Judge - Margaret Lambert