

CRUFTS SHETLAND SHEEPDOG BITCHES 10TH MARCH 2022

It was a great honour to be invited to judge at this prestigious show. The two ladies who kindly stewarded for me, did a fantastic job. I'm lucky I had some super bitches to go over, unfortunately, in some classes some I really liked went cardless. Some class places were just splitting hairs and I wished I could have placed more. I was thrilled with my final line up all excellent breed type as well as sound movers. However, the same fault kept coming up the same faults I've commented on when I've previously judged, which is, correct upper arm and shoulder placement. I was looking for the elegant symmetrical shape, totally balanced in height to length ratio, sadly there were too many that were square and lacked the balance in profile. Too many were short in length of back from the shoulders, then dropping off on the croup. There were plenty of beautiful heads but unfortunately, they didn't have the sound construction which showed in incorrect movement and as it's a working breed it should be fit for purpose. I was surprised how many bitches were overweight which affected their movement and this unfortunately reflected in some placings. From the ringside its always easy to judge and criticise but spectators don't have the advantage of feeling what a judge does and seeing movement at different angles.

Vet 1 Hardy, Ch Dippersmoor Joie De Vivre at Sandwick, tri, absolutely beautiful bitch one I have always admired. Super overall balance in profile, her head is lovely very neat ears which she used non stop, correct shaped eye, good forehead construction allowing the correct extension on the move, lovely neck into level top line and graceful sweep over the loin, good bend of stifle, well let down hocks, moves with drive behind, spot on for size just the right amount of bone and substance for her size. Beautifully presented a real credit to her owner. 2 Main, Shenachie Snowberry, b/m, I absolutely love this bitch she's top quality who excels in breed type, superb front and rear angulation, spot on for size. She has retained a lean wedged shaped head, flat skull, correct eye and ear placement with feminine expression, it's on the move she excels such a beautiful bitch to watch move just floats round the ring, she's lost the tan markings on her head which makes her look her age and it was this that put her down to 2nd, but a total credit to her owner. 3 Clegram, Smiddyshaw Relight My Fire ShCM VW, tri, loved her overall shape in profile, wish she was a shade smaller, super reach of neck, level top line and graceful sweep over her loins, good length of tail, the right amount of bone and substance, would prefer a more refined and feminine head, moved soundly, showed really well, very attentive to her handler. 4 Gruszka, Samphrey Shades Of Blue ShCM VW 5 Ambler, Chalmoor Stargazer MPB 1 Attwood, Black Forest at Terriwood, stood alone in this class but shows promise, refined head with feminine expression, neat ears correctly placed, good fill of foreface, good front and rear construction, lovely reach of neck, nice length of back, moved steady, a bit overwhelmed by the atmosphere, will follow her showing career with interest.

PB 1 Stafford, Rannerdale Queen Of The Dark, tri, I loved her beautiful balanced overall shape in profile, straight front, good depth of chest, neat feet, very feminine head and expression, lovely wedged shaped head, neat ears correctly placed, sweet eye obliquely set, super reach of neck, and level top line which she kept beautifully on the move, lovely bone and substance, gleaming black coat which fitted her perfectly, presented in excellent condition, moved really sound. A super quality bitch who really filled my eye, excellent breed type well deserved RBCC/BPIB in excellent company. First time I've given a puppy top honours but, on the day, she fully deserved it. 2 Saunders, Tachnamadra Button Moon At Fenfrey, tri, lovely overall type, well constructed front and rear, level top line, straight front, good bone, spot on for size, moved well coming and going, ears slight heavy and not as refined in head as the 3rd place but moved more soundly on the day.

3 James, Valmay In Vogue, s/w, beautiful bitch in profile, lovely fitted coat, good reach of neck and level top line, graceful sweep over the loins, good length of tail, correct bend of stifle. Loved her head beautifully moulded wedge shape, correct ear and eye placement, very feminine, unfortunately carrying too much weight especially over the shoulders which showed in her movement which unfortunately cost her a place today. 4 Brodie, Shanaburn Strawberry Wine 5 Smith, Kiemont Paris Is A Charmer At Bramblecroft

J 1 Miles, Milesend Goldspun, s/w, lovely overall shape in profile, just the right amount of bone and substance for her size, loved her feminine expression and refined head, straight front, good depth of chest, neat feet, moved soundly, just needs more time to mature. 2 Bray, Jontygray Trice As Nice By Lianbray, tri, smaller than the winner and not as feminine, but a nice overall bitch, refined head, neat ears, sweet eye, showed really well and very attentive to her owner, moved soundly. 3 Curtin, Blarney Black Magic, nice type of bitch a steady showgirl, spot on for size, good overall shape in profile, head handles well, neat ears, good fill of foreface, good underjaw, moved well behind but preferred the front movement of the second. 4 Craig, Shougies In The Mood At Drakeshyde 5 Dunn, Shelleary Born to Shine.

Y 1 Robinson, Lavika Lucid Dreams, b/m, absolutely beautiful bitch, super colour, lovely head, flat skull, neat correctly placed ears, correct eye placement and shape, well filled foreface, very feminine expression, super overall shape, well angulated front and rear which showed in the movement, good drive from behind and good

forward extension, perfect for size. 2 Miles, Milesend Moodancer, tri, feminine expression, nice shape in profile, would prefer a bit more neck, level top line, in good coat, moved well in front and behind, spot on for size. 3 Stafford, Rannerdale Sugar Candy, s/w, well coated and a beautiful shape, good reach of neck, level top line, well rounded bone, good bend of stifle, head handles well but would prefer a better ear set as they are quite close together which slightly detracts from her expression. 4 Smith, Shellamoyed Blackberry at Bramblecroft. 5 Riding, Achor's Surprise Orisa Fortoninska

PGB There were some lovely bitches in this class but sadly some not in full coat, which meant they went cardless. 1 Hardy, Sandwick Stage Show, tri, took my eye on initial look, glamorous girl with full white colour, and was not disappointed when going over her, super construction in front and rear, lovely wedged shaped head, flat skull, neat correctly placed ears, almond shaped eye all giving a beautiful expression, well arched neck, into level top line, lovely sweep over loin, just the right amount of substance and bone for her size, attentive showgirl, moved soundly both ways. 2 Barrowclough, Shadowess True Blue, b/m, very pretty bitch, beautiful colour, feminine head and expression, neat ears, flat skull, correctly placed eye, straight front, neat feet, just the right amount of bone and substance for her size, moved soundly, just preferred the outline of my winner. 3 Withers, Nerkalee Naomi at Stanydale, tri, balanced in profile, feminine head, neat ears, good underjaw, enough neck, level top line, straight front, good depth of chest, sound front and rear construction, moved well both ways, just preferred the finish of the 2nd. 4 Jackson, Keycharm Artic Queen with Gordi 5 Stock, Shemist Summer Romance.

MLB 1 Hills, Molson Its Moven, s/w, very feminine, beautiful head and expression, super shape in profile, balanced height to length ratio, level top line with graceful sweep over loin, moved soundly both ways, just needs more coat. 2 Withers, Stanydale Luck Be A Lady, this bitch earned her place on her super construction and movement, lovely to go over on the table, super upper arm and shoulder placement with showed in her lovely front movement, no showing fool and reluctant to use her ears but done enough, very sound, pleasure to watch move. 3 Hateley, Mohnesee Enchanted, s/w, on my first look thought she would be my winner but couldn't match the movement in front as the two placed above her. Very feminine expression, beautiful wedged shaped head, dark obliquely shaped eye, very neat ears, good underjaw, not the front angulation of the first two placings which showed in her movement, lovely reach of neck into level top line and graceful sweep over the loin, in excellent coat, beautifully presented. 4 Stafford, Rannerdale Abracadabra 5 Forbes, Degallo Blonde Ambition

LB 1 Hill, Molson Movie Star, s/w, sired by the above class winner and very similar in type, super shape in profile, lovely type, same comments apply to this bitch as the class winner in Mid Limit, a lovely example of the breed, not happy by her surroundings, but done enough, moved beautifully around the ring, spot on for size. quality bitch. 2 Dunne, Longrange Calin Dubh, tri, very flashy markings and in full coat groomed to perfection, lovely head with very neat ears and dark almond shaped eye, well developed underjaw, feminine expression, good reach of neck, level top line and graceful sweep over loins, good bend of stifle, straight front and neat feet, not the front angulation as the winner, and I preferred the height to length ration of my winner, steady mover but not as positive in front as the winner. 3 Ambler, Watchwood Sweetheart of Chalmoor, b/m, neat ears, lovely eye placement and shape, would prefer a slightly leaner head, superb overall shape in profile, good reach of neck, straight front, good depth of chest, just the right amount of bone and substance for her size, beautiful colour, in excellent coat, moved soundly both ways, beautifully presented, another quality bitch, 4 Elder, Ellenymorn Evita 5 Waldron, Lavika Good Times at Frecia

O A super class of quality bitches I wish I could have had more places to award 1 Pearson, Edglonian Rhythm N Rhyme, tri, absolutely stunning bitch who oozes quality and breed type, lovely symmetrical outline perfectly balanced, ultra-feminine she has a lovely wedged shaped head, flat skull, good underjaw, neat ears and correct eye placement and shape giving her that elusive expression. Well arched neck, into level top line and graceful sweep over loins, excellent bend of stifle, her front and rear construction are excellent, straight front, flexible pasterns, oval feet, right amount of bone and substance for her size, loved her height to length ratio, in superb coat, beautifully presented, her jet black coat and full white collar makes her command attention, she moves very soundly once moved at a slower pace, lovely front extension and drive from behind. BCC and BOB very well deserved. 2 Hardman & Simpson, Blue Panda Among Clemwood, b/m, another super bitch, excels in breed type, excellent balanced shape in profile, beautiful colour and markings, she's very feminine, lovely wedged shaped head, flat skull, level planes, well developed underjaw, neat ear placement all giving the desired expression, sound construction front and rear, in excellent coat, beautifully presented, attentive showgirl, moved well in front but couldn't match winner in rear movement. 3 Dunne, Japaro I have A Dream, s/w, another quality bitch who deserved her place, beautifully balanced in profile, correct height to length ratio, well arched neck, into level top line, straight front, good depth of chest, lean head, flat skull, neat ears, to be ultra critical I would prefer a darker eye to soften her expression, moved very well both ways, a very attentive showgirl, just needs

more coat to complete the picture. 4 Stafford, Ch Rannerdale Queen O'the North 5 Hateley, Mohnesee Millybelle JW

Good Citizen Dog Scheme 1 Whittington, Tighness The Tide Is High, s/w, Lovely balanced outline in profile, feminine head and expression, moved well both ways, spot on for size just lacking in coat. 2 Braddish, Mohnesee Starry Dream At Bradmigel,s/w, in excellent coat just not the balance of my winner, slightly longer in back, sweet expression but I would have preferred more defined stop, moved ok 3 Kennedy, Lirren Blue Gamble at Donbeley, attentive showgirl, in good coat, moved ok, colour a bit dark

Judge - Mylee Thomas