

LADIES KENNEL ASSOCIATION Championship Show 13th December 2024

I was passed and gave CCs to Shelties in 1977 and LKA 2024 was the 20th time of awarding them having judged at Crufts in 1993. Today I was very disappointed in the lack of quality within the breed, size is a problem, many of the exhibits were too small! Minor Puppy Bitch was particularly worrying! Not only is correct construction and Sheltie shape in decline but also heads too are far too varied, deep stops, lack of chin, receding skulls and wide apart ears were all on view today, one must remember the Sheltie is a working dog, albeit a smaller one and I wondered, if asked, how many of the dogs shown today could work at all. On the plus side coats and presentation were good but movement was worrying. Sorry to be so negative but I can only say what I observed on the day. It was distressing to have to withhold in Graduate Dog but in my opinion the three exhibits were not of sufficient quality, not done lightly.

MPD 7(2) 1. Gartland's Arcot Polished Black. Tricolour in lovely condition and well presented, needs a little more bone and a stronger temperament, quality in head and eye, decent mover, hope he grows on. 2. Bywater's Tachnamadra Royal Salute. Sh s/w with quite a nice head and he has a decent shape, moves close behind and very erratic in front. 3. Dillon's Lundecocks Tempest In A Box at Runforest (imp SWE).

PD 8(1) 1. Foy/Hawkins' Beldones Just a Hunch. Very masculine golden s/w, so well turned out and in lovely coat and condition, very well constructed and has lovely bone and feet, so pleasing in head and eye, good ears and a chin, very good neck used to advantage, strong rear and a sound mover, a star in this class, BP & PG3, well done. 2. Gartland's Arcot Polished Black. Repeat. 3. Bywater's Tachnamadra Royal Salute.

JD 3(1) 1. Folkes' Navy Blue of Most Majestic at Dacfolke (imp). Lovely coloured and coated b/m, quite good in outline, strong backend, lacked a little in head qualities. 2. Straw's Dukeson The Cruzader. This s/w is big enough and lacks a little in quality and type, edgy here but in graduate was very nervous hence being withheld on.

YD 6(1) 1. Winfield's Oakcroft The Mandalorian JW. This s/w was an easy winner here, has quality in head and eye but needs more chin and an eye stain mars his expression, decent outline, nice bone and feet, coat condition could improve, decent mover. 2. Parker's Edgionian Prime Target with Tolarock. Sh s/w in good coat, has a good outline on the stack, nice type of head with lovely ears, good showman, tail can detract at times and front movement can improve. 3. Arkley's Amethrickeh Perfect Spirit.

GD 3(0) Withheld

PGD 3(2) 1. Robertson's Afterglow Goldberg at Vidlinvov JW. Very good moving mahogany s/w in lovely coat and condition, his head could be a little more refined but he has a good foreface and super chin, very well constructed with lovely bone and feet. **LD 8(3)** 1. Brady/Lynn's Afterglow Sky Miles to Bordercote. Gorgeous coloured and well marked b/m in sparkling condition, very pleasing in head and eye with super ears, good neck and shoulders, very good to go over, strong rear and good tail, very good going away and exceptional going round, little loose in pastern coming towards. 2. Barrowclough's Shadowess Lockdown Hero. Golden s/w, has a lovely head but eyes a touch full, lovely coat and condition, little more neck would enhance his outline, decent mover. 3. Mitchell's Valdosta Gracelands JW.

OD 7(2) 1. Keeling's Kishdigra Rock The Gods Jr JCh. Very flashy golden s/w in such good bloom on his fitted jacket, admired his head and eye with good foreface and a chin, super neck and a true Sheltie outline, lovely bone and feet, strong hocks and so well balanced, very sound free mover, loved him, DCC & BOB, he is so masculine. 2. Walker's Ch/Fr/Int Ch/Lux/Swiss Ch. Tooralie's Pie In The Sky. This dark sh s/w has a lovely head with the darkest of eyes and super ears, shown in good coat and condition, pleasing to handle and well constructed, he is sound but could not match the winner going round, nice one though, RDCC. 3. Mottram's Lundecock's Hoopie-doo at Lochkaren JW (imp SWE).

GCD 3(0), one withdrawn 1. Cheal's Carolelen Composer at Faemadra. S/w with a nice head type but ears need attention, lovely body and coat and he is a decent mover. 2. Fagg's Valdosta Lionking. Came up from 4th in Yearling, his head lacks chin, eyes are too full and he needs more neck, movement is poor.

SBD 2(0) 1. Ferguson's Dinmore Wild Blue Yonder of Fervaila. Rather large b/m with good coat and colour, decent mover, heavy ears spoil his head and expression, one of the few with a good long tail.

MPB 10(2) Very disappointing class, only the winner was a Sheltie shape and all were too small. 1. Jacobs/Johnson's Willowthorn's Roulette. Very richly coloured beautifully presented s/w, quality in head and eye but needs more chin, very good ears used well, good outline and top-line and stands so well on good legs and feet, decent mover, hope she grows on a little. 2. Raaff's Stormraven Shadoswift. Light s/w who is a little bum high at present, she has a good body and coat, eyes a touch round which spoils her expression, very erratic on the move, hope she grows on. 3. Bray's Lianbray Lucy Locket.

PB 7(2) 1. Miles' Milesend Melody Maker. Quality s/w with a lovely head, eye and ears, super neck and front, very good outline, lovely body and fitted coat, very good mover, admired her size and style, bit unsettled at times but a good Sheltie, BPB. 2. Yaxley's Lavika Like A Lady. This s/w could not match the outline of winner, needs more neck and more chin, decent behind but erratic in front. 3. Haensel's Sherkarl Blue Elegance.

JB 4(1) 1. Robertson's Edglonian The Vixen of Vidlinvoe. Sh s/w not in full coat but so well turned out, lovely bone and feet for size, very good quarters and a good neck, typy head with correct stop, eye and ears, good mover. 2. Yaxley's Lavika The Perfect Storm. This tri is carrying too much weight, she has a gleaming black coat and decent conformation, liked her head and ears, on the move she is good behind but very erratic in front. 3. Sorockyj's Shazbec Maid of Honour at Sheltisha.

YB 4(1) 1. Walker's Una Fortuna for Tooralie. Quality mahogany s/w in full coat and bloom, her beautifully presented coat looked a picture, good to go over as she was so well constructed and a good mover, super neck and top-line, lovely head with the darkest eyes, very close up in the challenge. 2. Hayhurst's Keycharm Sweet Candy. Plainly marked s/w of pleasing type, lovely head and ears, good neck and lovely body and coat, good mover and a willing showgirl. 3. Norris' Sabema Mayfly at Ferngrove.

GB 4(2) 1. Daniels/Taylor's Pepperhill Light 'n Shade. Super coloured b/m shown in good coat and lovely condition, so very feminine yet with desired substance, pretty head and eye, good ears and a pleasing outline, loved her rich tan too! Very good on the move. 2. Weller's Evad Halloween Spice JW. Typy head on this s/w but a little too much stop and her ears are in the right place but tip just a little too much, good neck and outline, lovely coat and condition, decent mover.

PGB 8(5) 1. Miles' Milesend Shadow Dancer. Beautiful head, eye and ears on this wheaten, good foreface and chin too and excellent pigment, loved her expression, good neck and well constructed body topped with a well textured fitted jacket, just needs to get her act together on the move to reach the top. 2. Hayhurst's Keycharm Samba. This s/w has a typy head spoilt a little by her ear set, very good neck and outline, lovely body and coat and she is a decent mover. 3. Gartland's Arcot Take A Moment JW.

LB 6(2) Disappointing class for limit. 1. Mitchell's Valdosta Goddess JW. This s/w, very short of neck and upright in shoulders, lovely body and coat, decent mover. 2. Watkins' Lizmark Lucky In Love. This tri had a lovely black coat and nice bone and feet, again she is short of neck, head is of pleasing type but ears could be tighter, decent mover. 3. Sutherland's Beechmere Beautiful at Holamber.

OB 6(3) 1. Sorockyj's Sheltisha Royal Approval. Quality b/m, not a perfect colour but very acceptable and she is well marked, lovely head with correct stop, good eyes, ears and chin, good neck and front, lovely legs and feet, excellent outline and so well balanced, lovely coat and condition, very good mover and such a willing showgirl, won BCC, her 2nd I was told, well done. 2. Keeling's Kishdigra Heavenly Goddess Ir JCh. Golden s/w with a very pretty head and she is so feminine, very good conformation and in lovely coat and condition, not so good in front and feet could be better. 3. Haensel's Philhope Summer Highlights at Sherkarl.

GCB 4(0) 1. Welford's Ristine Emerald. This tri is one of few I have judged and admired before, she is all Sheltie in neck and shape, liked her head and good ears and dark expressive eyes, very good top-line, croup and tail set and was shown in lovely body and coat, she is so well balanced and very sound, today she was a bit unsettled and only showed when it suited her, a pity as I liked her a lot, RBCC. 2. Weller's Evad Halloween Spice JW. Repeat. 3. Cheal's Carolelen Call My Bluff at Faemadra.

SBB 5(0) 1. Hickling's Sheltisha Bell Of The Ball at Natara JW. Very pretty headed b/m with a lovely coat and colour, good eyes and ears, rich tan, good neck, lovely body, decent mover, BSpB. 2. Happel's Blenmerrow Viva La Musica. This Sh s/w was completely out of coat, nice type of head on good neck, well bodied and a decent mover. 3. Ferguson's Sandwick Valentina at Fervaila.

Judge - Derek Smith