

NORTHERN COUNTIES SHETLAND SHEEPDOG CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 3RD APRIL 2022

Sincere thanks to the club for the invitation and opportunity to award CC's for the first time and for hosting such a well-run show, and to the exhibitors for their support. It seems entries overall are falling, which is sad for the committees who work so hard to make these events possible and for the hobby as a whole.

Fortunately, I had ample worthy exhibits to afford me - what I felt - was a final line up which demonstrated top quality in our beautiful breed and was able to award the CC's and RCC's to 4 exhibits who are so close to my interpretation of the standard.

MPD 4 1st Mottram's Lundecock's Hoopie-Doo At Lochkaren (Imp Swe) An exciting 6 month old sable. Excellent shape with well arched neck, level topline and correct sweep over the loin, standing naturally correctly - presenting an overall picture of balance and elegance. Size, bone and substance appear ideal for his age. Fabulous head qualities with both masculinity and refinement evident: level planes, flat cheeks, well rounded foreface, good underjaw, correct stop, beautiful and correct eye shape, and placement, ears tipped correctly and all combining to give the desired melting expression. Chest and spring of rib developing as expected, both front and rear angulation favourable which allowed him to move true and particularly well for his age. Well coated for age, attractively marked and well presented. Such a steady showman and did everything asked of him. Despite his young age I felt his quality couldn't be overlooked in the challenge- RCC, BPD, BPIS. 2nd Thornley & Withers' Felthorn Barnaby Rudge Shapely, balanced tri puppy with lots to like. Head handled well, good ear set, nice eye, stop not quite as clean as 1st, but maintains a sweet expression. Very well constructed with good shoulder, straight hocks, good rear angulation. A little unsettled, so didn't always show off the correct stance and movement that he was capable of- but did enough for it to be appreciated. Abundant jet black coat with attractive markings, presented well. 3rd Winfield's Lirren Quickstep to Oakcroft NAF TAF

PD 1 (1a)

JD 3 (1a) 1st Proctor's Cuilshelties Lochan Torr Upstanding blue merle, with good bone. Long neck, level topline, long tail. Very much at an adolescent phase. Blunt wedge shaped head with well-placed ears, overall construction was good, in his class was settled and moved steadily, covering ground with good front extension, however in the challenge was particularly exuberant and didn't maintain his earlier movement. Very steady showman, in good coat, well-marked although could be a clearer blue and well presented. 2nd Saunders' Galateus Bohemia Classis At Torriglen (Imp Cze) NAF TAF Sable of good size and substance. Unsettled and appeared short of neck and splayed at the rear. Head well moulded with lovely eye, ears wider set and heavier which detract somewhat from his expression. Found him to be reasonably constructed. Unfortunately, he is one who really needs to be seen settled- judging him in a subsequent class he presented a very different picture and showed that unlike in this class he could stand correctly and presented a better shape with a better neck and moved far more soundly. Presented in excellent coat and condition.

MD 3 (1a) 1st Mottram's Lundecock's Hoopie-Doo At Lochkaren (Imp Swe) - See 1st MPD 2nd Winfield's Lirren Quickstep to Oakcroft NAF TAF Sable baby, giving a lot away in maturity and furnishings. Excellent shape, nice size and good bone. Can see his masculinity developing, head handles well with beautiful ear set and a sweet expression. Very well balanced, with lots of quality, nicely constructed and well angulated. Movement was sound by this class. Everything looks promising for him to mature into a quality adult.

ND 1 1st Winfield's Lirren Quickstep to Oakcroft NAF TAF – 2nd MD

YD 1 (1a)

PGD 6 (2a) 1st Thornley & Withers' Felthorn Cover Story Well-marked Tri of nice size and substance. Appealing shape. Good head qualities with a sweetness of expression. Very well constructed with good shoulder angulation and sound rear, which was reflected in his stance and sound movement. Ample coat, jet black with rich tan, fitting well to retain his lovely shape. Excellent presentation and a steady showman. 2nd Proctor's

Stiosan Still Game Understated sable, shapely enough, a rather correct, sound and balanced dog who couldn't be overlooked but just lacked sparkle and furnishings to draw the eye. I would prefer more filling in foreface and masculinity however his head is balanced, he has a lovely, well-placed eye and sweet expression. Well angulated shoulder and enough development of rear allow correct movement with minimum effort. Showed and presented well. 3rd Gruzka's Japaro Timeless Design for Samphrey

LD 5 – Lovely class. 1st Fisher's Shellamoyed Gold Fever Amply coated golden sable of a good size and correct bone and substance, portraying handsome masculinity with the sweetness and refinement required of the breed. Excels in shape- well arched neck, correct topline and sweep over the loin and good length of tail which he carried well. Correctly proportioned head: flat cheeks and skull; level head planes; well moulded foreface; correct stop; dark, almond shaped & obliquely set eye; correctly placed well tipped ears – all combined to give the ideal expression. Straight front, with strong pasterns. Well angulated shoulder, good depth of chest and well sprung ribs. Well let down, straight hocks, enough angulation of stifle. Moved soundly from all angles. Excellent showman with real ring presence who was presented in optimum condition. Delighted to award him the CC and later although a close decision his furnishings and sparkle gave him an edge to win BIS. 2nd Walker's Tooralie's Pie In The Sky Shaded sable who had left his coat at home but he had nothing to hide with his attractive shape. Balanced, masculine head, well moulded foreface, lovely eye and ears presenting a sweet expression. A very technically correct dog to go over who has great overall balance and was very steady on the move. Showed very well. Well presented. 3rd Redpath's Molson Miroquai into Pathaaron.

OD 2 (1a) 1st Goodwin's Highbrook Hobnob JW Sable of a nice size, good bone and substance and carrying a good coat. Reasonable shape but shorter all over and I would have preferred more neck & length of tail – however as he is also shorter in head, he was proportionate. Despite a shorter head type, it has good properties, and with good eyes and well-placed ears has a sweet expression. Good shoulder and overall, well-constructed which allowed him to move soundly. In good coat and condition, excellently presented and a born show man.

VD 2 (1a) 1st Winfield's Ch. Oakcroft Star Force JW Quality 7 year old sable of lovely breed type. Moderate but quite correct. Ideal size, correct bone, in good coat. Balanced and shapely, has good reach of neck and strong level topline. Very good head properties, correct stop and nice eye but ears a little on the high side. Found his construction to be correct and unexaggerated. Movement true from all angles. Showed well. BVD

SBD 2 (1a) 1st Saunders' Galateus Bohemia Classis At Torriglen (Imp Cze) NAF TAF – 2nd JD

Sp OD S&W 2 1st Walker's Tooralie's Ocho Rios Rich shaded sable, not in the best coat but an eye-catching shape- lovely arched neck, level topline, good tail length. Nicely balanced with lots of quality. Pleasant head properties and sweet, charming expression. Sound construction which allowed him to move well most of the time- rather happy with himself which impacted his movement at times. Has real character, showed and presented very well. Would prefer more body on him but couldn't overlook his shape and charisma in this class. 2nd Gamble's Solyric Inaugural Gold JW OSW Nice sable, shapely but not quite that of 1st. Correct for size and bone and in good coat and condition. Reasonable head qualities with a sweetness of expression, however I prefer a more developed underjaw. Well enough constructed to allow him steady movement and stood well both front and rear. Presented well and showed steadily.

Sp OD Tri/BT/BW 2 (1a) 1st Bywaters Tachnamadra He's Got The Look Tri of good size with correct bone and substance. His forte is his head and expression which - although slightly deeper in stop - I found pleasing. Well enough constructed and moved soundly but I felt he didn't present overall balance as he is rather lacking in neck. Lovely tan markings in excellent coat and condition. Presented well and showed well.

Sp OD BM 3 (2a) 1st Daniels & Taylor's Pepperhill Cruise Control Shapely blue, very eye-catching. Lovely neck, topline and length of tail. Head handles well but may prefer a sweeter eye to complete the picture. Excellent shoulder and well put together throughout. Very well balanced and nothing out of proportion or exaggerated. Moved very well front, rear and in profile in his class however weaved somewhat in the challenge which threw

everything out of sync. A quality boy nonetheless. Correct blue colour although heavily marked on one side, in good condition and presented well.

MPB 3 (1a) 1st Ritchie's Jaelis Mystique Reality Shapely, feminine puppy with nice reach of neck. A bit fine in head for me but pretty with a sweet eye and correct ear placement. Reasonable construction and angulation and moved, steadily. Presented and showed very well. BPB 2nd Shaw's Bluequarry The One and Only Sable puppy, appears balanced on the table but very unsettled. Head handled well and expression sweet enough. Construction OK but movement difficult to assess as very erratic.

PB 4 1st Winfield's Oakcroft Cosmic Flower Very attractive and eye-catching sable puppy, excels in shape, a bit longer in type but balanced. Beautiful head, full of breed type with sweet expression - lovely eye and ear set. Well enough constructed throughout, although needs to mature and settle in front. Movement going away and in profile were good. but front movement cost her going any further. Very feminine and showed herself off to advantage. 2nd Walker's Ballynerrin Erin Of The Isle Smaller type tri, enough bone and coat. Excellent shape and performed well. Rounder in eye but lovely ears. Construction and movement ok. Well presented 3rd Saunders' Tachnamadra Button Moon at Fernfrey

JB 1 1st Elder's Ellenyorn Electra Very balanced youngster with attractive shape. Head handles well with long blunt wedge and balanced planes, refined with nice eye and ear set, giving sweet expression. Good shoulder and soundly constructed all round. Moved well from all angles when settled. In good coat, presented in excellent condition and showed well. Lots to like about her.

MB 3 1st Ritchie's Jaelis Mystique Reality – 1st MPB 2nd Saunders' Tachnamadra Button Moon at Fernfrey Tri - Not small. Good shape with good bone and substance. Nice head, although not as refined and sweet as one. Reasonably well constructed. But overweight, which shows in her movement. In a heavy jet black coat. Performed very well and presented to advantage. 3rd Slater's Milesend Firefly

NB 3 (1a) 1st Winfield's Oakcroft Cosmic Flower – 1st PB 2nd Saunders' Tachnamadra Button Moon at Fernfrey – 2nd MB

YB 2 1st Goodwin's Rannerdale Honey Bee at Highbrook Feminine sable of a nice size, well boned, with an attractive shape. Nice reach of neck and level top line. Sweet expression due to her lovely eye and ear set. Refined head, which was well balanced. Reasonably well made, and moved well enough. In good coat, showed well and presented well. 2nd Slater's Amoureye Blue Floss Blue Merle of a longer type, nice shape. Reasonable balance of head and sweet enough expression. Nicely made and moved very well which was where she scored. Unsettled, but both she and handler did well and I was able to assess her. Nice colour with good marbling.

PGB 6 (1a) 1st Hateley's Mohnesee Enchanted Eye-catching, sable, who is full of herself and demands your attention. Exceptional neck, good top line, lovely sweep over the loin, correct length of tail. Good size, good bone and then fabulous coat and condition. A balanced, real quality head, with lovely level head planes, smooth cheeks and flat skull, correct stop, good underjaw, sweet eye and correct ears giving a beautiful expression. Very well constructed front and rear with good shoulder, a lovely angulation of stifle and well let down hocks. She moved very well, with good drive and front extension. A real showgirl who was presented to her best. Couldn't ignore her breed type and charisma in the challenge- RCC. 2nd Withers' Neraklee Naomi at Stanydale Close decision between 2 and 3. However, this girl was a bit steadier, both standing and on the move. Tri with a nice head, although a little deeper stop and fuller in eye, but not excessively. Well made and moved as such, balanced throughout and very sound. Presented a nice picture. Turned out and showed very well. 3rd Mottram's Lundecock's There's No Limit at Lochkaren (Imp Swe)

LB 7 (3a) 1st Huyton's Jaztech Summer Love for Hightyne Exceptionally well presented: conditioned; groomed; handled and trained to advantage. Nicely sized sable girl, with good bone and substance. Shapely, with a lovely reach of neck level ,top line, a nice sweep over the loins. Head handles very well, although ears are bit wider

set and heavier, which distracts from her expression for me. Well constructed throughout, particularly good bend of stifle. Moved with drive and covered the ground with ease. 2nd Elder's Ellenyorn Evita Nicely put together, sable girl. Not as well coated as 1, but pleasing nonetheless. Shapely and feminine. Head handles well with a nice eye and sweet expression. Nice to go over with good construction and as such moved well. Presented and performed well. 3rd Redpath's Sonymer Storm Doris into Pathaaron JW

OB 3 1st Hill's Molson Money Penny Golden sable, who commands the ring. Fantastic shape with an excellent reach of neck, correct length to height ratio with level top line, graceful sweep over the loin and lovely long tail. Appealing head, blunt wedge with flat cheeks, correctly proportioned level head planes, correctly placed stop, flat skull, beautiful dark eye of correct shape, size and placement, correct earset and a melting expression. Real quality to go over. Well angulated shoulder, lovely straight front. Good depth of chest, well sprung ribs. Nice bend of stifle; well let down hocks and always stood parallel at the rear. Exceptionally well balanced girl with nothing out of proportion and nothing I would want to change. Moved soundly with drive and front extension, covering the ground with minimum effort. Exceptionally well presented and showed her socks off. I felt a worthy CC winner. Very close decision for BIS, just felt the dog had the edge on finishing. 2nd Thornley & Withers' Ch. Mitchfields Fashion Girl at Felthorn Quality blue girl with attractive markings, who although didn't have the sparkle of 1 was very appealing on many levels and particularly on the table. Lovely shape with correct length of neck, level top line and nice sweep over the loin, tail long enough. Good head properties, with sweet eye and expression. Excellent shoulder angulation, good depth of chest and well sprung ribs. Correct rear angulation, although slightly longer in hock than 1. Exceptionally sound mover, covering the ground well with nothing out of balance at any time. Pushed hard when called back into the challenge. Presented well, in good coat and condition and performed well. 3rd Walkers' Tooralie's No No Nanette – Feminine black and white girl who I feel deserves a critique with the others in this class. Nice size, good bone and substance and carrying a good enough coat in fantastic condition. Very shapely which catches the eye, balanced and in proportion throughout. Head handles well, with well-placed eyes, neat ears and sweet expression. Good construction front and back which allowed her to move freely from all angles. Found herself in good company in this class and not one to be overlooked.

VB 6 (2a) 1st Elder's Ellenyorn Gem of Cara 10 1/2 year old sable girl of real quality. Excels in shape and breed type. Real refinement of head with correct head properties, good stop, dark almond shaped eyes correctly placed and well-placed ears which gives the most beautiful expression. Very well constructed with good shoulder angulation and correct rear angulation. No surprise that she is able to move the way she does. One I would change nothing about. Unlucky today that the main winners had the edge on furnishings and ring presence as she is one who deserves top honours. BVB BVIS. 2nd Gruzka's Samphrey Shades of Blue ShCM VW Blue Merle, who didn't look her age. Nicely shaped and well proportioned. Good for size and Substance. Lovely head qualities with a beautiful melting expression. Nicely constructed and moved well, particularly for her age. Liked her colour and was well marbled. Steady show girl, however, tended to stand a bit tucked under at the rear. Presented in good condition. 3rd Ritchie's Jaelis Mystique Reflection

SBB 1 1st Shaw's Bramblecroft Reeba at Bluequarry Nice shaded sable of a good size and substance. Shapely with a good reach of neck. Lacks some refinement in head, however, has a sweet eye and maintains a nice expression. Well enough made and moved well. A very steady show girl. Presented in good coat and condition.

Sp OB S&W 2 1st Hill's Molson Movie Star Feminine sable girl of excellent breed type. Good size with correct bone, and in good coat and condition. Appealing shape, presenting a picture of balance throughout. Refined head, with sweet expression. Easy to appreciate on the table as she is very correctly constructed and angulated without exaggeration. She really scores on movement, which again is balanced and correct. Needs to be settled to be fully appreciated and is difficult to overlook when she is. Excellent presentation. 2nd Winfield's Carolelen Classic Star by Oakcroft JW Very attractive sable girl. Beautiful shape with excellent reach of neck. Head not as refined as 1, however balanced with correct eye and ear and a sweetness of expression. Well constructed front and rear, which allowed her to move out well. In an excellent coat. A real steady show girl.

Sp OB tri/BT/BW 4 (4a)

Sp OB BM 3 1st Barrowclough's Shadowess True Blue Like this blue girl a lot, but didn't seem particularly on the ball today and at times wasn't showing her shape to full advantage. Quality blue of a nice colour with good marbling, correct for size and substance. Nice head qualities, flat cheeks and skull, well rounded foreface, correct stop, lovely eyes and ears, she is very feminine with sweet expression. Construction was good overall, which was reflected in her movement. In excellent coat and condition and presented very well. 2nd Daniels and Taylor's Pepperhill Jive Talking Another nicely coloured blue but a bit heavily marked. Attractive shape, with good neck and topline. Head handled well, lovely dark eyes and nicely set ears, although not quite as sweet as 1. Found her to be balanced and well constructed with a very good shoulder. Moved well as her construction would suggest. Lacking a bit of coat but presented well and showed steadily. 3rd Slater's Amoureye Blue Floss

Judge – Mrs L Forbes