

# SKC CH SHOW, 27/08/16 - Shetland Sheepdogs

## Shetland Sheepdogs

I would like to thank the committee for inviting me to judge at their show & the exhibitors, several of whom had made the long journey to Scotland, for trusting me with their entry. The depth of quality in the males, particularly in the lower classes, was somewhat worrying but I was happy with my winners & was encouraged by the quality of the bitches. As ever, the problems of upright shoulders & steep upper arms were still in evidence. Sadly, several of the exhibits, particularly the youngsters, were very unsettled by the noisy venue. I was looking for a refined Sheltie of correct breed type with that lovely balanced outline, good construction & the desired Sheltie expression, & was happy to have found these qualities in my main winners.

MPD (2,1a) 1 Drysdale's Donallin Shadow Magic, 8 months s/w who stood alone in this class. Correct dark eye shape & placement but head lacked refinement & balance. Unfortunately, he was disturbed by the noise & his ears refused to settle which spoilt his expression. Ideally would prefer more refinement overall & a little bit less of him, particularly at this age. Good rear angulation but a little bit steep in upper arm & shoulder. Presentation was excellent. PD (1) 1 Edwards' Castlerose Star Turn, 11 months tri of correct size who also stood alone in his class. Correct length to height ratio & excellent front & rear angulation. Lovely reach of neck, level topline & good tail length giving a very balanced outline. Well placed, dark eye & correct ear carriage, just needs to fill in foreface. Moved well. BPD. JD (4,1) 1 Greenwood & Taylor's Omebrid Gives Warm Hugs, 13 months tri of correct make & shape. Good bone, well sprung rib & good depth of chest. Very well constructed throughout with lovely balanced head & correct eye shape & placement. Sadly his ears were a little heavy which did detract from his expression & like so many others today, he was unsettled by the noisy venue which made it difficult to assess his movement. In very good coat & well presented; 2 Wilson's Blazecroft Bolt From The Blu to Dasgeda, liked the shape & size of this b/m who is a well broken colour. Good eye shape & placement but would prefer better ear carriage as he did tend to carry them to the side. Nicely balanced outline, good reach of neck & sufficient front & rear angulation but a little unsettled & had a tendency to fly his tail on the move; 3 Sangster's Amethrickeh Stormi Wizard. YD (0). ND (2) 1 O Gives Warm Hugs; 2 Sangster's Amethrickeh Stormi Wizard, sadly this b/m youngster couldn't cope with the noisy venue making it very difficult to assess him. It's such a shame, as he has a lovely head & expression but wasn't prepared to show off his virtues. Of more compact size & carrying a wealth of coat (& possibly a little bit too much weight!) Just wasn't happy in the ring today. PGD (9,2) 1 Saunders' Chalmoor Shades Of Gold at Fernfrey, there is so much to like about this 2 years glamorous s/w but he is his own worst enemy & refuses to show off his charms. Very well presented, in excellent coat & condition. He has the classic clean, wedge shaped head with level planes, flat skull, dark eye & just the correct amount of stop, but how I wish he would lift those ears which would enhance his expression & give him that alert expression. He is very well constructed front & rear with good depth of chest, flexible pasterns & strong bone. Moved effortlessly round the ring which won him the class; 2 Walker's Marsula Shogun, 2 years tri of good substance but slightly smaller in size than the winner. Nicely balanced head with level planes & correct ear carriage. Ideally would like a little bit more length of leg to give a more balanced outline.

Good bone, level topline & lovely bend of stifle giving drive from behind but couldn't quite match the front movement of the winner. Still a young dog & has time to mature; 3 Hill's Tegens Astrakan at Molson. LD (9,1) 1 Smith's Orea The Bootlegger, such a lovely dog to go over, this g/s oozes masculinity without coarseness & is so well constructed through. Correct front & rear angulation with excellent layback of shoulder & length of upper arm, good depth of chest, flexible pasterns & strong bone. I loved his head. He has the correct level planes & desired amount of stop, well placed dark eye & correct ear carriage, the whole combining to give that sweet, alluring expression. If I were to be super critical, would like a tad more reach of neck. Moved effortlessly round the ring & when it came to the challenge was pleased to award him the CC; 2 Winfield's Oakcroft Star Force, have admired this g/s boy for some time & there is so much to like about him but, sadly, today he just didn't seem to be on top form & wasn't quite in full bloom. He has the most lovely head & expression with well placed dark eye, sufficient reach of neck, level topline & good length of tail. Moved well but didn't quite have the front construction of the winner. Still very much a youngster with time on his side & I've no doubt that his title will not be far away once he has had chance to grow his new coat; 3 Gatheral's Herds Humphrey. OD (8) 1 Goodwin's Ch Highbrook Hot Heir, most attractive shaded/s who is just coming up to 5 years of age & it was a very close decision between him & the winner of LD when it came to the challenge. He is refined yet masculine & has the most appealing expression with correct ear carriage. He is well balanced throughout with good rear angulation & correct length of tail. Correct for size, moved well & presented to perfection. When it came to the challenge I just preferred the front construction of the winner. RCC; 2 Edwards' Castlerose Spiritmaster, very sound b/m dog who is so well constructed throughout with good layback of shoulder & length of upper arm combined with well angled hindquarters. Nicely balanced head with well rounded muzzle & good underjaw. Good reach of neck, well developed chest & strong bone. Again a close decision between him & the winner but just preferred the refinement of the winner; 3 Proctor's Our Little Drummer Boy. VD (2,1) 1 Smith's Orea Top Gun, most attractive dark s/s with full white collar who is now 8 years & still has the appearance & movement of a youngster. Excellent front & rear angulation, good depth of chest & most appealing dark eye & expression. Good bone & substance. Stood alone in this class but fully deserved his first place.

MPB (2) 1 Purves' Donallin Ultimage Magic, 10 months attractive g/s with full white collar presented in lovely coat & condition. Most appealing dark, well placed eye & well rounded muzzle. Skull not quite on the same level plane as her muzzle but this did not detract from her very appealing expression. A little steep in upper arm but overall a very attractive puppy who was presented in immaculate condition & moved well; 2 Fenton's Shannmie's Tropical Blue, still very much a raw baby at just 6 months of age & understandably a little overwhelmed by the noise. Loved her well broken colour & she has excellent front & rear angulation. Well balanced head & correct eye shape & placement. Sadly she was very unsettled & hence her ears had a mind of their own. Ideally I would like them slightly higher set & a little bit smaller to enhance her expression. Once on the move she settled & moved well. PB (3) 1 Gatheral's Herds Hopefull, most appealing g/s with full white collar, in lovely coat & condition. So well-balanced throughout with correct length to height ratio. Most expressive, well placed dark eye & correct ear carriage giving a very sweet & feminine expression. Moved very smoothly & freely round the ring. BP; 2 Gamble's Balidorn Solitude, another very appealing g/s & so difficult to choose between her & the winner. She also has a beautifully balanced head with lovely dark almond shaped eye, level planes & correct ear carriage, giving a very appealing expression. Good reach of neck & level topline. Beautifully presented & moved & showed well. In the final analysis I just preferred the overall finish &

balance of the winner; 3 Nixon's Japaro Edge Of Dreams. JB (5,1) 1 Nixon's Japaro Touch The Stars, most attractive 15 months g/s who instantly appealed for her overall shape & most delightful expression. Ideal size & has a lovely dark eye of correct shape & placement set into well balanced head with level planes & well rounded foreface, topped by neat, correctly placed ears. Good spring of rib & well bent stifle but would prefer more layback of shoulder & length of upper arm. Very feminine in outlook & impossible to resist that melting, dreamy expression. Moved well; 2 Clegram & Berry's Smiddyshaw I'll B There For U, another very attractive 13 months g/s, very similar to the first in so many ways. Well balanced head & dark eye but did not have the ear carriage of the winner which did detract somewhat from her expression. Well presented & moved well; 3 Wilkie's Avonbank Designed To Dazzle. YB (8) 1 Fisher's Shellamoyed Babycham, hard to resist this eyecatching 18 months g/s presented in full coat which was groomed to perfection. Beautiful eye & expression, well developed chest, good bone, lovely bend of stifle with well let down hocks, good reach of neck, level topline graceful sweep over the loins. Beautifully balanced throughout & presented a lovely outline in profile. Good construction & moved well; 2 Sonymer's Winter Solstice, very attractive tri with full white collar who is just coming up to 2 years of age. Instantly appealed for her overall balance & shapely outline. Lovely dark, almond shaped eye set in well balanced head, topped with well placed ears, giving a very sweet expression which can sometimes be difficult to see in a tri. Well angulated front & hindquarters, level topline & good length of tail. Really liked this girl but, sadly, her handler was struggling to move her at the speed required to show off her good construction to advantage. Two very nice bitches who could so easily change places; 3 A Designed To Dazzle. NB (3,1) 1 B Solitude; 2 S Tropical Blue. PGB (5) 1 Smith's Orea Bootleg Babe, how refreshing to find yet another exhibit from this kennel who excelled in construction & movement. Loved the shapely outline of this 4 years s/s who was so well balanced throughout. Ideal for size with good bone & substance, good bend of stifle & low hock joint giving her drive on the move. Appealing head & expression with good reach of neck & correct ear carriage. Presented a lovely picture in profile & moved round the ring with ease; 2 Lycett's Herds Hallicia at Iliad, another attractive g/s with a lovely eye & expression. Just needs to fill out a little in foreface & couldn't quite match the shapely outline & front angulation of the winner. Very well presented & moved well; 3 Fenton's Shannmie's Blue Butterfly. LB (6,1) A lovely class of quality bitches. 1 Elder's Ellenyorn Endless Love, it was impossible to overlook the dreamy, melting expression of this 5 years rich mahogany s/s who was in full bloom & exudes sheltie charm. Excels in head properties & has the most appealing dark eye & correctly placed ears. Super bone & substance with neat feet, flexible pasterns & good hindquarters. Ideally would like a little more angulation in front which would enhance her shape. Presented in gleaming condition & totally focused on her handler. Moves with grace & ease. This lovely lady deserves her title & I seriously considered her in the challenge but she couldn't quite match the shape & front angulation of the winner. RCC; 2 Nixon's Japaro Making Music, very attractive g/s who unfortunately left her coat at home today. Loved her head & expression & very similar in shape & size to the winner. Moved well & just needs to grow her coat to complete the picture; 3 Purves' Sommerville Magic In Black. OB (5) 1 Latimer's Sonymer Summers Dream, & what a dream she is. This super 4 years golden sable possessed everything I was looking. Of excellent breed type, she excels in head properties & has the most appealing dark eye & neat ears, giving her that captivating Sheltie expression which is so hard to define. I loved her overall shape & balance, correct length to height ratio, elegant reachy neck, good depth of chest & level topline. Super angulation front & rear with well let down hock joint enabling her to move effortlessly around the ring. In super condition & presented to perfection. So feminine in outlook & exudes Sheltie charm. She totally stole my heart & I just couldn't deny her the CC. When it came to the challenge for BOB her super

shape, refinement & movement gave her the edge over the dog & I was pleased to award her BOB. Delighted to see she was shortlisted in the group; 2 Lycett's Shebaville Saucy Secret at Iliad, I have always admired this shapely, feminine b/m. Lovely eye shape & placement set in correct wedge shaped head giving the desired expression. Good conformation front & rear with correct body proportions, level topline & just the right amount of bone. Flowed round the ring with free, effortless movement. To be super critical I would like a tad more reach of neck but nevertheless a quality bitch who deserves top honours; 3 Main's Shenachie Snowberry. VB (1) A.

MAUREEN BYWATER