

Shetland Sheepdog Club Of North Wales Championship Show 10/08/2025

Many thanks to the club for the invitation to judge this lovely, well-run show; to my 2 very able ring stewards who kept things running smoothly and to the exhibitors for their quality entry and who – for the majority - accepted my decisions with grace. Overall, presentation was very good and one of my previous bug bears of poor dental condition was very much improved.

I had several dogs who could have had top awards and some lovely youngsters which is always a pleasure to see. I was very pleased with the final line up. All final decisions were in agreement with the bitch judge, which is always nice. BIS and BPIS went to the dogs and RBIS, BVIS and BBPIS went to the bitches.

Baby Puppy Dog (3, 1a)

1 – Mitchell's Valdosta Je Amour

Balanced 5 month old Tri boy with attractive markings. Good for size, substance, bone and coat at this age. Head handles well, with level planes and pleasant expression. Lovely shape- well off for neck, level topline and long tail. Soundly constructed and moved well for age and schooled to advantage. Best Baby Puppy Dog.

2 – Yardley & Davies' Dippersmoor Starshine

Sweet 5 month old sable. Smaller in size with enough bone for frame just now. Sweet expression and appealing shape. Enjoying himself, which showed in front movement but generally good for his age. Coat in excellent condition and was presented and handled to advantage.

Minor Puppy Dog (2)

1 – Keeling's Kishdigra The Love God (RAF)

Gorgeous puppy who I will be following with interest. 8 months old sable. Refined head with correct long, blunt wedge, balanced and correctly filled, combined with both eye shape and placement along with ear set giving him a sweet while masculine expression. Upstanding boy with correct bone and excellent coat for his age. Attractive shape with correct reach of neck and level topline. Well put together, front and rear. Movement in profile and going were very good, more puppy like in front – which I am sure will improve as he develops in chest. Excellent presentation and showed himself well. Really pushing the adults in the challenge and was seriously considered for top awards – which I am sure he will receive in due course. BPB and BPIS.

2 – Walker's Stormin Norm By Tooralie

Quality 7 month old sable, smaller all over than winner, but appears well within standard. An excellently put together young boy. Head handles well and has a nice expression. Excels in both construction and shape and has overall balance which allow him the expected correct movement throughout. Correct bone and substance and in excellent coat and condition. Well turned out. Certainly not to be overlooked.

Puppy Dog (3, 1a)

1 – Stafford's Rannerdale Jammy Dodger

Attractive 10 month old sable with eye-catching markings. Not quite as refined in head as BPD but balanced overall, has a sweet yes masculine expression. Lovely reach of neck, level topline and correct balanced shape with good height to length. Good for size and substance with desired bone. Well enough constructed and moved well when settled as he did have a tendency to rush a little. Beautifully presented and showed himself off. Another who I expect will continue to top awards.

2 – Goodwin's Highbrook Hells Bells

Balanced sable boy with a lovely temperament. Bigger all over than winner. Correct bone and substance for size. Excellent shape with reasonable construction. He moved soundly from all angles. Performed very well and didn't put a foot out of place. Well presented.

Junior Dog (5)

1- Hateley's Mohnesee The Charm Master JW

And he is a charming boy! 12 month old sable of correct size, with good bone and enough coat for the class. Exceptionally sweet expression with a beautiful correct eye shape and placement and good

ear set. Foreface not quite filled as of yet but absolutely fine for his age. Good reach of neck and correct tail length, had lost some coat which affected topline and sweep over the loin, however these handled well on the table. Not overly angulated but construction and balance ok and moved as such. Presented and performed very well.

2 – Rennison's Zaniah's Illusionist

14 month old blue. Good size and substance with an attractive shape. Head and expression Ok, ear set could be better and he gave to the winner on breed type and sweetness. Well enough put together and moved well from all angles. Blue colouring to his advantage although heavier marked on 1 side, did not distract from overall picture. Good presentation and performed well.

3 – Bird & Caden's Moving On Up To Molson

Yearling Dog (3)

1 – Rossiter's Cocaro The Highlander JW

18 months old sable and very eye catching. Head handles well, correct long blunt wedge, stop bang on, beautiful eye shape and placement and correct ear set – combining to give a beautiful sweet yet masculine expression. Correct for size and substance with good bone, in excellent coat and condition. Well arched neck of good length, topline level at back, however could be longer which does affect overall balance. Appears to fall away at back end, although on the table this doesn't appear as much as on the floor. Good shoulder and rear end Ok, very good movement coming and in profile – variable in rear. Stood and showed perfectly at all times and was presented to advantage.

2 – Norris' Ferngrove's Code Blue

16 month old blue of good size and substance and in excellent coat. Lacks refinement and sweetness of expression presented by the winner. Good reach of neck, topline Ok and good length of tail. Reasonable construction and moved OK. Showed very well throughout.

3 – Gamble's Balidorn Olympic Star with Solytic

Graduate Dog (5)

1 – Berry, Clegram & Clegram's Smiddyshaw Here I Go Again

Masculine sable boy with an attractive shape and good balance throughout. Correct for size with good bone and substance, in excellent condition. Head handles well enough, could be a little more refined doesn't distract from the overall picture, nice eye shape and sweet expression. Scored on shape, with correct reach of neck, good topline and length of back. Good spring of rib and depth of chest. Constructed well enough throughout and sound on the move. Presented beautifully and handled to advantage.

2 – Varnom's Milesend Black Tartan

Tri boy of a nice size, with good bone and substance. He is difficult to asses on the ground as appears to tuck himself up. However, on the table I found a well put together boy with a nice shape and lot of virtues. Head handles well, sweet yet masculine expression although could have a touch more underjaw. Moved well. In good coat which was well turned out.

3 – Dillon's Lundecoys Tempest In A Pot At Runforest (Imp Swe)

Post Graduate Dog (2)

1- Linford's Hillhenry In Your Honour

Jet black tri with attractive markings. Correct for size, bone and substance. Head handles well enough with pleasing eyes and ears giving a sweet yet masculine expression. Really good shape which presents a lovely picture standing. Constructed ok and moved well. In excellent condition, presented beautifully and schooled to perfection.

2 – Dillon's Lundecoys Tempest In A Pot at Runforest (Imp Swe)

Sable of correct size. Refined head which handles well, beautiful eye shape and placement – just needs to use ears a bit more to show off his potential. Shape is better when he stands at ease. Reasonably well made and moved well.

Limit Dog (9, 3a)

An excellent class where the top 3 would all be most welcome to a space on my sofa!

1- Stafford's Rannerdale Mister Majic

Exceptional sable boy who was turned out to perfection. Correct size and good bone and substance. Refined head, well moulded foreface, correct stop with nice eye and excellent ear set and placement giving a beautiful expression. A very nice boy to go over with everything where it should be, good angulation front and back, correct depth of chest, good forechest. Beautiful reach of neck, good length of back and level topline. When he is settled presents a beautiful picture and can demonstrate excellent movement. He really pulled out the stops in this class and going into the challenge was firmly in my mind for the top awards. Unfortunately when his head isn't in the game he drops his back end both standing and on the move- disappointing on the day but as he is such a quality dog I have absolutely no doubt that he will have his days gain his title.

2 – Winfield's Oakcroft The Mandalorian JW

Another super sable boy. Much of the same in regard to shape and construction apply here as to the winner. A very balanced dog with good shape and construction. Moved soundly from all angles and put in an excellent performance. Head handles well but just gives to the sweetness of the winner. In great coat and condition and put in a polished performance. Another who merits top awards.

3 –Sutherland's Shelcrest Winter Solstice of Suthesley JW

Open Dog (7)

1 – Hill's Molson Milkybar Kid (re-Imp)

Top quality sable who I have had the pleasure of judging before – he was my Dog CC winner in Norway 3 years ago and his qualities continue to draw me in. Correct for size, substance and bone, carrying enough coat which fits him well and enhances his shape. Balanced head with level planes, well placed stop and correct moulding of foreface. Sweet eye and good placement of ears contributing to sweetness of expression. An honest dog to go over with good angulation both front and rear. Good spring of ribs and depth of chest, with good forechest. Moved well from all angles, as expected from his balance throughout. Showed very well and pushed hard in the challenge, RCC.

2 – Mitchell's Valdosta Gracelands JW

Upstanding sable, good for size, bone and substance and shown in excellent coat and condition. Head handles well, slightly wider set in ears and couldn't quite match the expression of winner, however still a pleasant expression and a good head overall. Eyecatching shape with good neck and topline, he is a quality boy to go over without much to dislike. Moves well in rear and profile but his joy seems to come through in the front somewhat. Presented well and put in a good performance.

3 – Mottram's Ch. Lundecock's Hoopie-Doo at Locharen JW (Imp Swe)

Veteran Dog (5, 3a)

1- Walker's Ch. Tooralie's Ocho Rios JW

Very nice 7.5 year old with a lot to like. Good for size, substance, bone and coat. Correct head patterns, lovely eye and good ear set giving a pleasing expression. Shapely and well balanced throughout, correct reach of neck, topline and sweep over the loin. Constructed and angulated well enough which showed in his sound movement. Performed and presented very well. BVD.

2 - Goodwin's Highbrook Hobnob JW

Another quality boy who was shown in excellent coat and condition. Head not as refined as 1 but balanced none the less and has a sweet yet masculine expression. Attractive shape which he made the best of at all times and didn't put a foot out of place throughout. Well enough constructed and moved well.

Sable and White Dog (6, 4a)

1- Stafford's Ch. Rannerdale Showmaster JW

Another top quality boy, correct for size and substance, in excellent condition and a true showman. Lovely shape with nothing out of place or proportion. Head handles well, masculine expression with correct eye shape and placement and pleasing ears. A lot to like when going over him, correct in so many regards and moved as he should. Have admired him for a number of years and continue to do so having now had the pleasure of judging him.

2 - Lycett's Iliad Isle of Ewe

Shaded sable who has a very sweet expression, in part due to his beautiful eye. Good substance for size and carrying enough coat. Pleasing to go over and moved well. Turned out and performed well.

Tricolour/BT/BW Dog (2,1a)

1-Hardy's Sandwich Ace of Hearts

Almost 2 years old, Black and white of a good size with correct bone and substance. Shapely enough and very well put together on the forehand. Head handles well and he has an attractive expression. Moved well and showed well enough. Presented in good condition.

Blue Merle Dog (3)

1 – Robinson's Ch. Lavika Deep Blue Ocean

Blue boy who has come straight out of the top drawer! Good for size, correct bone and substance and gives a picture of balance from the start. Blunt wedge with level planes, correctly placed stop and well moulded foreface, almond shaped and correctly set eyes, ears of correct size and well placed – this dog's expression is masculine yet so sweet and captivating. Super reach of neck, level topline with enough length, sweep over the loin and good length of tail. Good front assembly, with shoulder angulation, ribcage, depth of chest, forechest, forelegs and pastern all correct and to the standard. To the rear he has a good bend of stifle and well let down straight hocks with good muscle throughout. Sound movement from all angles. Presented and handled to perfection- he never put a foot wrong all day. DCC and BIS

2 – Ayres' Gemette Gone Platinum

Blue with an excellent shape. Head handles well with a pleasing expression. Construction Ok, rear and side movement good although unbalanced in front. Well presented and performed well.

3- Varnom's Milesend Blue Jeans

Judge – Leanda Forbes