

ENGLISH SETTER ASSOCIATION

CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

19TH APRIL 2015

Bitches

I thank the officers and committee of ESA for their hospitality. I thoroughly enjoyed judging the bitches and feel honoured to have been given the opportunity. Thanks also to my stewards who worked hard all day.

Last time I judged the breed I mentioned upper arms and front construction in general. Unfortunately I didn't see any significant improvement. An English Setter has to have the correct upper arm and shoulder angulation to be able to move correctly and show good extension of the front legs. Some of the exhibits had it but many didn't. I don't count myself out of this criticism as we all need to pay attention to it when breeding.

The other fault I noticed is eye shape. There has always been a number of bold, round eyes in our breed but there now appear to be some specimens with eyes set too far into the skull. Don't make a mistake of confusing this with a well hooded eye. Eye colour was good and hind movement has improved. I thank all exhibitors for your entry.

MP: 1 - Goutorbe's Upperwood Clarabel, baby o/b who has all the essentials. She moves as you would expect for one of only 6mths but was very accurate as a result of her good angulation. She has a pretty head with correct eye. Top line is correct and tailset bang on. Should do well. 2 - Spencer's Sorbus Savannah, lovely o/b whose extra month in age gave her the edge in maturity but I didn't feel she quite had the angulation of 1, still a very sound puppy which showed on the move. Dark eye on quality head. Good body properties and well off for coat. 3 - Mortimer's Phlerdor Heart of Gold. Three lovely puppies.

P: 1 - Williams' Bournehouse Party Days 10mth mature o/b 'out of the mould'. Correctly proportioned pretty head. Good front assembly, good bone supporting short coupled body, shows good angulation to hindquarters, lovely nature. Moved well, BPB. 2 - Naylor and Morrison's Anlory Binche, unlucky to meet 1 as she is a b/b who commands respect even at 9mths of age. She is well proportioned and shows a good outline. Correct work to head whilst maintaining her femininity. Dark eye. Well angulated and shortest of hocks. Moved soundly and with animation. 3 - Harding's Mariglen Fennella at Cumbersett.

V: 1 - on her own, Bishop's Dyrham Midnight Dream. 7yr o/b who possesses a dark eye carried on a lovely head. Goof forequarters, level topline which she kept on the move, driving off her short hocks, well off for coat, BVIS.

J: 1 - Littlechild & Stirk's Grakar Gigi at Ravensett, 12mth o/b with pleasing outline and no exaggerations. Sweet feminine head with dark eye, good angulation to support deep chest. Good reach of neck onto level topline. Moved well with correct side stride. 2 - Trigwell's Hannahdene Penny Lane, Attractive girl with correct length of foreface on pretty head, well arched feet supporting good front assembly, short coupled body and well let down hindquarters, moved well. 3 - Hartle's Hartsett All my Lovin.

Y: 1 - Tucker's Walshaw Date with Destiny. I was really impressed with this o/b girl. Pretty head with lovely expression on feminine head, excels in forequarters, lovely bone and correct shape feet. Good body with correct topline, good hindquarters with correct croup and lovely angulation of stifle on short hocks. Moved soundly and with animation, won the class with some to spare. 2 - Felton-Blyth's Ascot Angel, tri of good proportion, pretty head with dark eye. Well bodied and with good length from hip to hock. Not the movement of 1. 3 - McCabe's Rachdale Sea Pearl.

M: 1 - A Binche, 2 - G Gigi at Ravensett, 3 - H Penny Lane.

N: 1 - A Binche. 2 - G Gigi at Ravensett, 3 Baker's Pilsdon Flash in the Pan.

T: 1 - Thacker's Swannery Blue Rose, pretty b/b with dark eye, good length of neck, of good proportions. Good hind angulation and short hocks, just needs time. 2 - Thacker's Mandysett Tell No One o/b with pretty head of good proportion, well bodied. Needs to settle but this will come with practise.

G: 1 - Cherry's Shanandi Forget Me Not this b/b has caught my eye at the ringside previously and I wasn't disappointed as she possesses a lovely head with expressive eye carried on good neck and shoulder, short coupled body, good over croup and correct coupling. Moved soundly off short hocks. 2 - Colville & McLoughlin's Arabin Top Secret similarly built to 1 who pressed hard. Again a lovely head with dark eye, good forequarters, deep in brisket and level topline, moved well. 3 - Gwilliam's Victoriaview Primrose.

PG: Three outstanding bitches headed this class, 1 - Rumble's Jotunheim Va Va Voom, b/b I have always admired from the ringside, lovely proportions to this girl and balanced head, lovely neck into good front assembly, well arched feet, short in loin and good body properties. Excels in hindquarter angulation and correct hocks, very sound mover, a credit to her owner. 2 -

Dennis' Balvenie Kismet at Mariglen, tri who pushed 1 hard, feminine head & lovely front assembly, gorgeous cat-like feet, level topline, good over croup and sound quarters which made for good movement. 3 - Sykes Daraquist Abbi Riginal.

ML: Again three lovely bitches headed this class 1 - Goutorbe's Redhara Crystal Cracker, I don't mind saying, a favourite of mine. Tri with expression to melt any heart, lovely front assembly and short coupled frame. Excellent hindquarter angulation which she used to good effect on the move. Correct reach in front RCC. 2 - Taylor's Wansleydale Scarlet Ribbon JW, a lovely bitch of very good proportion, pretty head with dark eye, very good forehand and well boned. Good quality frame, well let down hindquarters, moved well. 3 - Mugford's Ouensha Summer Nights at Lynwood.

L: 1 - Goutorbe's Upperwood Martha, light tri who possesses a gorgeous expression with darkest of eyes on well proportioned, feminine head, correctly constructed forequarters on good feet. Level topline, well angulated hindquarters, moved well with drive and good reach in front. 2 - Grimsdell's Tattersett Frankel JW gorgeous b/b who is well off for coat, pretty head, clean in outline and correct topline, deep in brisket, and well-made forehand, moved well off good hindquarters supported by short hocks. 3 - Bishop's Dyrham Amazing Grace.

O: 1 - Williams' Sh Ch Bournehouse Golden Gift. 2 - Sh Ch Upperwood Coco Channel for Richecca. Hardest decision of the day and I love them both! The first is an upstanding o/b with excellent outline. Gorgeous feminine head, correct forehand with well placed elbows. Level topline and correct length from hip to hock. Moved well. The second really pushed 1 hard. It only occurred to me after I had placed them that I had judged her before. Sweet head and very similar comments apply in terms of forehand. Short coupled frame, good topline and excellent hindquarters from which she moved with drive and accuracy. 3 - Hartle's Hartsett Cherry Bee JW.

SpB: 1 - S Blue Rose. 2 - Davis' Richecca Baby Doll of Merleycopse tri with good length of foreface, good shoulder, strong bone, level topline and short hock. 3 - M Tell No One.

Judge: Andy Swannell