

Afghan hound Association 29/7/17

Thank you to the AHA for their invitation to judge the afternoon show and for the warm welcome offered me; thanks also to my hard working stewards and to all exhibitors for entering your beautiful hounds for my opinion.

Although the weather started to break up Midday I was grateful for another ring being set up on the hard standing allowing all judging to be completed outside, luckily the rain stayed away until the photos!

A respectable numeric entry which I found mixed in quality, type, size & substance, it's always easy to home in on the negatives, but I feel those I found should be mentioned! movement was in many cases disappointing and incorrect. Although 'acceptable' I was surprised to find a worrying amount of level bites with some bordering undershot! Many heads were broad with untypical expressions. Large feet were few and far between! All were presented in beautiful clean coat, however I found too many in soft condition, perhaps some would benefit from as much and more time being spent on physical fitness as grooming & coat preservation! I don't believe 'cosmetic' presentation should ever take priority over fitness of mind & body!

MPD. 1. Young. Saxonmill Mister Mister at Shirobana.

2. hall. Saxonmill Burr Burr Chan at Garamond.

Blk/tan 8 month litter brothers. Very alike in head, neck and fronts, nice substance, good tailsets & ringed tails.

The first is shorter coupled yet balanced with a good level Topline kept his shape in profile and was steady coming and going, I liked the extra ground covering stride of 2 but maybe due to his lack of 'body' dropped his Topline a little.

PD.1. Keates. Affitar Glen Maragan blk mask Gold, 9 mnths. Quality young man who is very well made and balanced all through, good head & eye, there is little to fault but I particularly liked his front angulation with excellent depth, level Topline correct fallaway well set on ringed tail, In excellent hard condition, powerful & precise movement from all angles. BPD

2. saxonmill BurrBurr Chann at Garamond

JD.Winters. Pashtari Lord Tennyson tokando JW. 16 month Blk/Tan of good quality, excels in outline, & stacked appears mature for his age, but is every bit the youngster under hand, nice head & expression, great reach of neck flows into his level Topline. Correct fallaway and tail set, straight front, liked his length from hip to hock with well bent stifle. Moves steadily with a free gait.

2.Affitar Glen Maragan, pushed 1 hard.

Yearling. 1.Woodwards Laavas Opportunity Knocks JW. Quality Blk/Silver, really good head, with correct length, strength of underjaw, clean through the scull, lovely eye shape, super through the neck & shoulder, liked his width to fallaway, & well set on ringed tail, adequate angulation. Moves easily with a light ground covering stride., presented in hard condition and pleasing coat.

2.Khamis Aequitas at Eweyisska, self mask cream, has many qualities to admire, really liked his long head without courseness, good expression, flowing profile outline, carries himself well moving with long light strides, needs to mature in body condition.

Vet. Gray.Ayoubkhan Fleur de Noel. 71/2 yrs blk brindle, nicely made, with balanced outline, good head & expression great front assembly, strong quarters. Moved ok.

Grad. Liked 1&2 both quite different from one another but share quality, good structure, good heads & ringed tails.

1.Gardner. Drishaun Black & Tan Rebel. Refined boy presented in excellent condition, long head & good expression, strength to jaw, long neck, level topline into good fallaway, balanced & good angles to front & quarters, moved well each way.

- 2.Greening.Zilbec Zanthus. Self mask cream, striking outline, liked his substance & extra length, not so light and precise in footfall, but hairsplitting!
3. Benito & Seemarks Sayadena Northern Lights (Imp.Bel)

P.Grad. 1. Gardner. Drishaun it ain't what you do. Real Gold dog, up to size but so well balanced with 'classic' outline & he excels in conformation, great angles for n aft, straight front with good depth of chest well ribbed back,, level Topline strong & wide over the croup & fallaway, sweeping quarters, one of the best correct moving dogs today, light long springy strides with great extension.

- 2.Boydell & Farqhaur Kerrijoy The Pyramid King SH.CM, another quality boy with super head & eye and well made Quality outline, just couldn't match 1 in reach & drive.
3. Stevens. Ayoubkhan Firethorn

Limit. This good but mixed class gave me lots to sort out, but I made the final decision on movement & performance.

1. Maroney. -Crowley & Harding Ashanti Blaze of Fire. Not a big Blk/silver dog and I would prefer more of him but he has enough substance for his frame and was shown in excellent hard condition. He's balanced with good angulation to shoulder & quarters, level Topline & strong through the loin, nice fallaway, his head is long & lean with good eye & expression, he moved out well and looked collected & positive in side gait keeping his shape continuously.
2. 2 Griffin. Pahlavi Da-Vinci at Lazakhan JW. At first I thought this black would be my winner, preferred his size & type, mature & finished in body, he has excellent angulation to front & rear with good depth of chest. Long and strong from hip to hock, moved around well with good extension but was quite untidy at times and lost his Topline.
3. Gardner.Javidan Bad Boy Boogie

Open. 1.Cannon. CH.Calamus Mediator (IMP) ShCH this black boy stood away in this class, a fully mature stallion, standing over plenty of ground with a masculine head of good length with arrogant expression little to fault in conformation of medium size correct front depth & sternum, flows through the neck & shoulder into firm level Topline prominent hip bones with good fall away & tailset., good turn of stifle with well developed second thigh, large feet, presented in hard muscular condition & well turned out coat. Powerful mover, plenty of reach & drive keeping his outline from all angles. BIS

2. Stainsby Istani Breaking Every Code JW . Mature Gold boy with lots of quality, fabulous hard condition, Presented in good silky coat. As above well made throughout, a good head & type outline, slightly longer through the loin but kept his level Topline throughout, moved with good ground covering gait with slight spring. Res.BD
- 3.Winters Garamond Cloudberry for Tokando.

Sp.Racing Dog.

- 1.Drishaun it Ain't What You Do
- 2.cullen. Syrdarya Toffee Pop at Eweyisska.

Bitches.

P. 1. Gilbert's. Affietar Glen Magillie. 9mnth Blk/Tan, special young lady full of quality presented to perfection, lovely head already developing good length, correct bite, excels in outline, correct angulation to front and quarters, proper depth of chest, strong level Topline, fallaway is well developed tail is ringed well set on and carried correctly. Her movement is as good as it gets, ground covering forward reach, rear drive light spring, loved her. BP & res BB

2 Fairclough Affietar Glen Shira, litter sister and equally as good, slightly taller, but naughty as only an Affie puppy can be.

JNR. This class of three was 'difficult'

2 blk/silver litter sisters and a different type of gold which I liked very much who unfortunately gave her handler such a hard time in any kind of presentation!

I gave first place to Greenfields Pashtari Lady Windermere at Phelezzi, as I preferred her head, expression, length of neck and front assembly, shorter in body than her sister, but both held a good level Topline,

2. Bloors Pashtari Lady Cavendish is better through her quarters, I liked her length from hip to hock with well turned stifle, she was more reluctant on the move here.

3. Thomson, Truckle, Evans & Hillier. Rhazmakh Rhyme n Tyme

Yearling. 1. Pashtari a Lady Cavendish.

2. Laavas Opporunity Scent. Strikingly marked blk/cream, loved head & eye, good quarters. Moved ok.

Vet. Hitch. CH. Zendushkas Soarkling Rose. 9 years, Blk/Silver in excellent coat & condition, a worthy Champion with obvious quality, beautiful long head with good eye shape balanced great angles, long neck still holding a firm level Toplice, moved 'steadily' with correct spring. Close up for Best bitch.

Nov. 1. Affietar Galen Shira. 2. Rhazmakh Rhyme n Tyme

Grad. Bloors. Pashtari Lady Cavendish, moved out better here secured her this place.

2. Steven & Craft Ayoubkhan Jasmine. Elegant outline, good head & liked her well angulated quarters, moved with a nice light gait.

3. Boydell. Warren oak Dixie on my Mind.

P.Grad. Turner. Gezancol La di Da alone but very worthy of her 1st place. 3 yrs, quality Blk mask Gold, very balanced with good substance, stands well over her ground. Good head & eye long neck clean through the shoulders level back, good fall away with ringed tail. Moved very enthusiastically with elements of good reach & drive.

Limit. 1. Small. gezancol Sweetness n Light JW.

2. Dowd & Malia. Saxonmill Lovestruck Luna.

3. Green Barley & Power Garamond Wineberry at Socherea.

So this was the class that gave me my hardest decisions, all had attributes to appreciate, but the hairsplitting was between 1&2. I liked them very much but both were not performing as I'd wish. 1 is a Gold grizzle, was fidgety stacked, she has a good head & expression, she did all she could to hide her good length of neck, level back and good through the quarters, well set on ringed tail. Presents a smaller very square outline compared to 2. An exuberant mover that sometimes looked a little untidy especially going away but she moved freely through her front with good head carriage. 2. Red brindle, is just the shape that really appeals to me, I loved her head, long with great chiselling the best of eye shape & expression, she scored over 1 stacked, excellent in outline, correct angulation fore and aft, long neck, good across the croup, with a ringed tail, hard condition. I was disappointed she chose not to move with any enthusiasm. I decided to move them around together twice more, I made my decision on that performance.

Open. A mixed class for differing types, yet all had lots to like.

1. Gunn & Canon lux. CH. Amal Salang Hey I'm The Star at Zushkhan. Blk. Liked her balanced outline, presented in nice silky coat & put together with good angular structure, she excelled for me in head, long and refined good underjaw, fabulous triangular eye shape, with arrogant expression, hard muscular condition throughout. Came into her own on the move, light easy long gait with lift, handled well to ensure she kept her super shape. BB & Res. BIS.

2. **Small. Garamond Spiceberry JW ShCH. Striking Blk/tan, all quality, bigger built all through than 1, but retains femininity, has a striking outline super head & expression, with good angulation, goes well with light ground covering movement.**
3. **Peek-Matar. Sleepy Hollow at Yansukhim (IMP) JW.ShCM**

Judge. Dee Milligan-Bott