

AFGHAN HOUND ASSOCIATION

CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 2nd MAY 2016.

BEST IN SHOW JUDGE; JEFF BUNNEY.

There was a friendly atmosphere throughout the day thanks in equal measure to the hard working AHA team and the large gathering of exhibitors and visitors. Our two judges from Australia and America had drawn an excellent entry. I was honoured to be invited to substitute for our President Gloria North who unfortunately could not be with us on the day. We all send her our love and best wishes.

Best in Show. I awarded the top honours to the CC winning dog, Fielder's Ch. Garamond Sunberry. All male this black & tan was shown in excellent condition and was fit for function. I liked his size, type and overall conformation. Everything flowed from the tip of his nose to the tip of his ringed tail. A commanding hound on the stack, holding his masculine head proudly, he gave his owner/handler a tough time on the move. Having shown "bouncing beans" and "flying rugs" myself I was prepared to give him the time to settle because he ticked all the boxes for me. Very happy to award him Best In Show at our 68th Championship Show.

Reserve Best in Show was awarded to the Res. CC winning dog, Della Rocca's It/Int/Cro Ch. Way Up Mr Grinch. A gold shown in excellent bloom – stunning. This stallion male appealed for his type, size and overall shape and conformation. Everything fitted together – nothing "jarred". He too has a masculine head and is proud on the stack. And boy – can he move.!

Best Opposite Sex in Show was Thomas, Wright & Boieck's Agha Djaris Fast Love at Audigier (imp Deu) winning her first CC on the day. This fleet footed bitch was presented in hard condition and her brindle coat shone. Proud on the stack she pulled out all the stops on the move. My preference was for the type of the two males.

Best Puppy in Show. Two playful pups of different types. I chose the bitch, Cross's Gilari Crimson Magic. She is all wings and legs at this stage which is as it should be. Feminine headed gold and of established kennel type she has a firm top line and is nicely built. She should be very proud of her big feet. Once over the dizzy stage she showed a good length of stride.

Best Opposite Sex Puppy in Show went to Casey's Jazzmeenah Moody Blues. A tad wild and wooley this shaded cream boy was enjoying himself. Scored in upper arm and lay back to shoulder. Moved freely.

Best Veteran in Show. A choice between two hounds who have graced our rings for some years. Both shown in super condition. Metcalfe's Ch. Cubanba Northern Star JW. just won on style. This brindle bitch still looks like a youngster and has slimmed down to her benefit. Great conformation. Beautifully presented and moving with verve.

Best Opposite Sex Veteran in Show. Drage's Sarakhan Sirocco JW. This gold boy is still in full coat and is always well presented. Good overall body shape. Not the verve of the bitch but in his 10th year he is permitted to take things more sedately. I have always admired him for his slightly stubborn streak.

Jeff Bunney.