

The AHA held their 65th Championship Show at The Kennel Club Building at Stoneleigh and it gave me much pleasure to be invited to officiate in judging the BIS & Best Puppy awards and thank the AHA for their hospitality. Weren't we blessed by the weather enabling all judging to take place outside in large grass rings which always enhances the atmosphere.

I have many happy memories of past AHA shows in the "old days", has an exhibitor, committee member, ring steward and judging with Margaret Niblock in 1990. I can now add 2013 to my memories.

I was presented with 2 interesting hounds for the top award & both gave me much thought. My choice, after much deliberation, going to the bitch.

**ANDIZHAN BAKHTUU ARUSHKHAN:**

Black masked cream, presented a very pleasing outline. Shown in excellent bloom & condition. For me she typified the Afghan bitch. I liked her head carriage & her balance in profile. With her natural unexaggerated gait she covered the ground with ease. For me she chalked up the finer points I was looking for in my interpretation of the breed standard. A sound honest bitch. I wish her well for her third ticket.

**Reserve BIS & BOS. The Dog Fr/Irish CH AGHA**  
**DJARIS WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH** gaining his UK title on the day to add to his many wins & international titles.

He is a grand showman and has natural ring presence and attitude that personifies the male.

He was likewise shown in good bloom & expertly handled to get the best out of him moving with much style around the ring, but my final preference going to the bitch on my personal preference on her breed type.

For **BEST PUPPY**. I was presented with 2 raw but promising puppies. My choice went to the 10 month light brindle bitch **ZARAM ZARIA** A most pretty feminine bitch, good head shape, lovely in balance & outline, good depth of chest, good angles & once she got her act together moved with a steady stride in her action. I liked her very much and will watch her progress with interest,

The dog puppy **PAHLEVI DAVINCI AT LAZAKHAN**. A little younger in age is less mature. Rather at that wild & woolly stage male dogs can go through.. He has the most beautiful head, dark eye & shape & reminds me of his sire. Presented in great coat but at this stage I feel it detracts from his outline. Not so forward in development as the bitch & I felt at this stage not so balanced & somewhat loose in his action. None the less I am sure he has a bright future when he develops in maturity.

The **2 Veterans** were delightful & judging these special dogs always pulls at the heart.

I just hated having to put one over the other. Both are a credit to their owner/breeders & both have proven an asset to the breed through their subsequent progeny.

Best Veteran

**CH CLOUDSIDE WARPAIN**, a somewhat young veteran at just 7yrs, in grand form. Not a big dog but so well balanced and he has a natural stance. He has a classic head, good basic conformation & was shown in great form moving effortlessly around the ring carrying his head well.

**BOS Veteran**, another dark Brindle.

**CH ANDIZHAN ARATEEKAH.**

I have always liked the look of this bitch from the ringside in her more youthful days & I was not disappointed in handling her today. Another a well balanced bitch in great form and nice easy movement ; just slightly losing in her topline to the male when standing but what a valuable asset she has proven as a brood, her daughter was BIS and she has other winning progeny including a Ch son . Her owner breeder has every right to be proud of her!