

Thank you to the AHA for inviting me to judge your Open Show on 7 May 2018. What a fabulous facility for dog shows you have with The Kennel Club Building at Stoneleigh Park near Coventry. It is beautifully suited to safe and proper presentation of the exhibits both indoors and outdoors. It appeared quite accommodating to exhibitors and spectators and I noted that the outdoor rings were securely fenced on all sides.

The committee members were gracious and devoted to the utmost details from the nice outdoor ring tenting with AHA decoration, lovely rosettes and framed art and wines for some of the winners to the attentive care taking of the judge, even to the sweet, scented fresh flowers on the dining tables indoors. Thank you for all of this. Combined, it produced a memorable and first-class event.

I appreciate the exhibitors who entered their fine Afghan Hounds and I came away with the impression that the breeders of the UK are producing many good dogs which will guarantee the excellence of the breed for many years to come.

As bright and beautiful as the day was, myself included, found that the heat and bright sun of the afternoon could take a toll on the exhibits. I chose to carefully limit the amount of gaiting that was done in the full sun and heat of the afternoon. I was pleased that, for the most part, each of the exhibits went around happily with nice style and tails up on the move. I should note that a number of topline were off when gaited and some of the dogs went either high in the rear or soft in the middle. Temperaments were wonderful. Probably a good half of the dogs actually wagged their tails as I approached them and not one backed away. This has become commonplace, unfortunately, in America, so it was refreshing to have such steady exhibits. There were overall good front assemblies with nice but not overdone fill in front. Many of the shoulders were a bit rough and higher placed than I would desire. This is to pick on one thing or the other, but there was good quality and depth of quality in most of the classes. In several of the classes the first and second placements could have gone either way on a given different day.

The ultimate line ups in the Best Dog competition as well as the competition for Best Bitch was stellar. I would have been pleased to own in my own kennel the Bests and Reserves of each sex.

## DOGS

Class 1 Minor Puppy Dog 1st Owned by Mr and Mrs A. Heritage. JAZZMEENAH OVER THE MOON. A single entry in this class. Young dog with a nice eye and underjaw, long, ringed tail, good shoulder and short back.

Class 2 Puppy Dog 1st owned by Ms. R. Mullen. NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE DE HILLSBURY, Leggy youngster who put together some beautiful strides. Attractive head. Great length from hip to hock This puppy, I believe, holds great promise. Well let down hocks. This young man would be awarded Best Puppy Dog. 2nd owned by Mr. T. and Mrs. A. Reed. CLOUDSIDE SUNSTRIKE. Beautiful head and eye. Silky coat. Short coupled and low hocks.

Class 3. Junior Dog. 1st owned by Miss P. Metcalfe. PINEAPPLES HAVE PEELINGS TOO. Lovely shoulders and deep chest. Beautiful compact body with sweepy rear and good movement. 2nd owned by Mrs. H. Care NIGHTWIND YOU ARE THE ONE. A very beautiful head and eye. Overall a bit more dog. Lovely movement.

Class 4. Yearling Dog. 1st owned by Mrs. D. Abrey. KARAGEZ TAME THE WORLD. An easy moving young dog with a small eye and good shoulder. Lovely croup and good overall balance. 2nd owned by Mr. D. and Mrs. J. Keates. AFFIETAR GLEN MARAGAN. An interesting young with a primitiveness to his look, Nice dark eye and a powerful mover.

Class 5. Veteran Dog. 1st owned by Mr. C. and Mrs. D. King. CH. KARANDIKAR STAR STORM. Beautiful head and eye with a lovely sweep to his rear. Held the same correct frame while

moving as well as standing. 2nd owned by Inman and Lacey Gorman. ISHARA STAR OF THE SURVIVAL. Beautiful classic head and lovely eye. Silky coated. Nicely balanced.

Class 6. Novice Dog. 1st owned by Mr. T. and Mrs. A. Reed. CLOUDSIDE SUNSTRIKE (as described in Class 2). 2nd owned by Mrs. E. and Miss I. James. SITANA AAG TOOFAN. A short coupled, leggy youngster with a good shoulder and low hocks.

Class 7 Graduate Dog. 1st owned by Mrs. L. Grant Thomas. KOUROS TELL ME ON A SUNDAY. Compact dog who was an efficient mover. In good muscle. Lovely head and eye. 2nd owned by Mrs. T.M. Cullen. KHAMIS AEQUITAS AT EWEYISSKA. Very masculine dog with lovely pigment. Beautiful head and eye. Very silky coated.

Class 8. Post Graduate Dog. 1st owned by Mrs. D. and Mr. J N. Milligan-Bott and Bott. THENDARA LOVE IT LIKE THAT JW. Compact dog of good balance with a hard back. Beautiful moving. Beautiful head and eye. A serious contender for Best Dog who would ultimately be awarded Reserve Best Dog. 2nd owned by Mrs. P.J. Woodward. LAAVAS OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS JW. Also a beautiful mover. Long, lovely head with nice eye.

Class 9 Limit Dog. 1st owned by Mr. A. R. and Mrs. C, M. Cheesman. ZARAM ZEROUN. Nice moving dog who kept a good frame on the move, Good fill in front. Beautiful head and eye. 2nd owned by Mr. J. and Mrs. M. Bloor. PASHTARI LORD BYRON. Also a very nice mover with a lovely head and good body. Great chest and detailed croup.

Class 10 Open Dog. 1st owned by S. J. R. and L. Edwards, Gilbert and Appleby. ALTSIDE MR WICKHAM. Great mover who would go on to be Best Male and Best in Show. A clear early standout in his class. Stylish on the move. Stunning in the stack. With good top and tail. Strong, yet elegant head. 2nd owned by Mr. J. Mrs. V. and Miss M. Cannon. CH CALAMUS MEDIATOR. This dog pushed very closely for the win in this class. Also an outstanding animal of elegance and beautiful breed type.

Class 11. Special Racing Dog. 1st owned by Mrs. T.M. Cullen. SYRDARYA TOFFY POP AT EWEYISSKA. A dog with a good shoulder and a lovely head with a pleasing expression and eye. Nice well let down hocks. 2nd owned by Mrs. G, Gardner. DRISHAUN IT AINT WHAT YOU DO. Very classic head and strong jaw. Got off the ground nicely on the move.

#### **BITCHES**

Class 12. Minor Puppy Bitch. 1st owned by Mr.N. and Mrs. K. Raper. TULAK JUST GO WIH IT FOR AMARIZ. Young, promising puppy with good bone and balanced front and rear. Although she is quite young, there is much to indicate that she will be an excellent moving bitch.

Class 13, Puppy Bitch. 1st owned by Miss J.L. and Mr. M. House and Hinchliffe. CLOUDSIDE SUN ANGEL FOR JODAK. This beautiful exhibit would become my Best Puppy in Show. A very balanced and correct mover. Compact with a lovely head and eye. In the beautiful puppy 'bloom'. 2nd owned by Mr. I and Mrs K. Stevens and Craft. JONECA FIREBLADE. Also quite a good mover. Leggy bitch with classic head and very balanced front and rear. Another that is sure to be a very good adult.

Class 14. Junior Bitch. 1st owned by Hutton and Boydell Turner. NIGHTWIND YOURE MY KIND OF CRAZY. A very leggy nicely moving bitch with a beautiful sweep to her rear. Pretty, with classic head and eye.

Class 16. Veteran Bitch. 1st owned by Misses M and M, Mrs. A. and Mrs E. Hills, Lacey, and Szcyczewski.. WEETONEON FOLIES BERGERE ShCM. Lovely Veteran. In beautiful condition with a good topline and nice on the move. Pretty head and eye. 2nd owned by Mrs. N.K. and Mrs. M.J. Hitch. CH ZENDUSHKAS SPARKLING ROSE. A lovely bitch with beautiful silky coat and a classic head. A close call between these two exhibits.

Class 17. Novice Bitch. 1st owned by Miss J.L. and Mr. M. House and Hinchcliffe. As described in Class 13.

Class 18. Graduate Bitch. 1st Owned by Miss E. and Miss I. James. GILARI VERMILLION VENUS JW. Easy and nicely moving bitch .Lovely chiseled head. Beautiful silky textured coat.

2nd. Owned by Mr. D.R. and Mrs. J. Hensey. ANDIZHAN CAELEAH. Lovely girl with a classic head and a beautiful shoulder.

Class 19. Post Graduate Bitch. 1st owned by Miss C.E. and Miss N. Harding and Cowley. KHASBEK LICENSE TO WIN AT ASHAHNI. A sizey bitch, nice moving, beautifully made with pretty details. Lovely head. Sweeping rear. 2nd owned by Mr.I. and Mrs K. Stevens and Craft. Very attractive bitch with good easy movement. Lovely head and good shoulders.

Class 20. Limit Bitch. 1st owned by Mr. P.and Mrs. J. and Miss N. Barley and Franklin Barley. ZHIVIAS NYGHT SILHOUETTE. Nice sized bitch who kept a lovely frame standing and on the move. Balanced front and rear. Lovely head and eye. This bitch went on to be the Best Bitch and Best opposite Sex in Show and did push the Best Dog very hard for his award. 2nd owned by Mr.D.S. , Mrs. G. and Miss K. Chadwick and Bradley. SOFICO GRISELDA. Lovely bitch and a close runner up to the first-place bitch. Lovely head. Very nice moving. Great length of bone from hip to hock.

Class 21. Open Bitch. 1st owned by Miss. A. Gray. CH ALOUANN GLITZ N GLAMOUR AVE ALGRAHART. Lovely bitch. Beautifully feminine head. Good shoulders. Lovely easy movement. Tis went on to be the Reserve Bitch and was quite on par with the Best Bitch. 2nd owned by Mrs.D. Peek-Matar. SLEEPY HOLLOW AT YANSUKHIM JW ShCM. A very quality bitch. More compact. Pretty head and shoulder and a crop of nice length.