

## The Beagle Association Open Show Saturday February 20th 2016

I would like to express my extreme gratitude to the Beagle Association for inviting me to judge the bitches at their open show. The venue is a real find and the show itself was very well organised by a very hard working committee with a very pleasant, relaxed atmosphere and a lovely array of food which always goes down well! I would also like to thank my stewards for making my life a lot easier.

In general I was very pleased with the bitches, there were no problems with mouths and most were presented in very good condition. The only thing that did concern me slightly was movement especially fronts. Some static exhibits did fall apart on the move. I know this is not a new problem but something we need to continue to be aware of. There were some very some very promising puppies which bodes well for the future.

### **Minor Puppy Bitch** (entries 3, abs 1)

1. Philpotts Charterwood Highlight. Tricolour 7 month old. Well off for bone and up to size. A little heavier in head than I would have liked but still feminine, good length of muzzle and correct earset. Well ribbed back and good tailset. Moved with drive and held her topline.

2. Richmond's Dughallmor Stand n' deliver at canowindra. Very much a baby at her first show but was not overawed and seemed to enjoy herself. Open marked tri, had a very sweet expression, good body length, just going through an awkward stage at the moment and needs to come up on her legs to give a more balanced outline. Not quite the scope of movement as one but still very promising.

### **Puppy Bitch** ( entries 10, abs 2)

1. Havards Annava Knick Knack, broken tricolour who really took my eye in the ring and didnt disappoint to go over. Lovely melting expression, lips well flewed, good eyecolour and skullshape. Elegant reach of neck leading into a correct lay of shoulder. Level topline and correct tailset. Well developed rearend with a good bend of stifle. Moved well from all angles showing reach and drive and parallel coming and going. She pushed very hard for Best Bitch where I was just splitting hairs but very happy to make her Best Puppy and Reserve Best Bitch. My fellow judge was in agreement to make her Best Puppy in Show.

2. Woodcocks Roddwood Rhea, tricolour girl in good condition and well presented. Has a very pleasing head with a kind expression, good muzzle length and shape, well defined stop. Good spring off ribs and chest well let down. Level topline that she held on the move, tight feet. Was not as true on the move as one.

### **Junior Bitch** ( entries 4, abs 0)

1. Havards Annava Imagine, smart tricolour , lovely size and a well balanced puppy bitch. Sweetest of expressions with a nice kind eye, good stop and earset. Had a super forechest, correct shoulders with a good length of upperarm. Ribs well sprung and a good length of loin. Moved using her quarters well showing plenty of reach and drive, good coming and going.

2. Jones & Jepsens Eardley Merry Berry. Smart tricolour girl well presented and shown. Pleasing head with a good length of muzzle, nice eyeshape and colour with a well defined stop. Shorter backed bitch with a good spring of rib, level topline and good set on of stern. Touch long in stifle, moved with plenty of drive.

### **Novice Bitch** (entries 6, abs 2)

1. Woodcocks Roddwood Rhea.

2. Goldbergs Molesend Query. Reserve in a strong puppy class. Charming broken tri of a very nice size, well proportioned and presented in good condition. Very nice headpiece with a nicely arched neck leading into correct shoulders. . Well coupled, good bend of stifle with tight feet. Settled more on the move in this class.

**Graduate Bitch** (entries 11, abs 2)

1. Havards AnnavaH Honeydew, finishing off a lovely trio of puppies from this kennel for me to go over. Tan and White with a pleasing head and expression, nice kind eye, well arched neck and angulated shoulders. Good length of loin and nice bend of stifle. Moved well from all angles, unfortunately not a settled in the challenge.

2. Rodericks Barterhound Gossip, a very appealing broken tri bitch with a beautiful expression as you expect from this kennel. Slightly longer in cast than one but well presented with a good depth of chest and level topline she held on the move. Not quite the reach of 1.

**Post Graduate Bitch** (entries 9, abs 0)

1. McBain & Stevens Redcap Bella Sorella, a good honest bitch being very workmanlike. Well of for bone, lovely expression with a good length of muzzle and well defined stop. Nice length of neck, good forchest and spring of ribs. Well developed rearend that she used to advantage. Just slightly tucked up today but moved with plenty of drive.

2. Vickers Stormpasture Jasmine of Rosroden, charming faded tri bitch in good condition who gave first place a good run for their money. Sweet expression, good neck and shoulders level topline. Unfortunately unsteady on the move and not quite as true coming and going as one.

**Limit Bitch** ( entries 6, abs 2)

1. Hunts Bondlea Dove. Really stood out in this class and was on top form being very well presented and handled. Threw out a lovely outline being well balanced throughout. A very good size tri bitch with a beautiful headpiece with a very soft melting expression, elegant reach of neck leading into well laid shoulders. Good forechest, strong pasterns and tight feet. Ribs well sprung, strong loin and good bend of stifle with a strong second thigh. Really used her quarters well being very true from all angles showing reach and drive and utilising the power from her rear. My best Bitch on the day and extremely pleased to see her go Reserve Best in Show. Interestingly looking back through the notes of my previous judging appointment I gave her sire Best in Show and it seems he has passed many of his attributes on.

2. Ayres -- Cousins Eardley Clare Voyant at Viracocha. Faded tri, good muzzle, nice broad nose, good stop and eyeshape. Well set leathers with a good depth of chest, slightly shorter in body but still well balanced. True coming and going, not quite the reach and drive of the winner but still a very nicely put together bitch.

**Open Bitch** (entries 6, abs 1)

1. Havards AnnavaH Alpine, Tricolor bitch, lips well flewed, good eyeshape and colour. Chest well let down, good forechest, well coupled with nice bend of stifle and tight feet, good coat. Moved freely showing plenty of reach and drive and being positive coming and going. Faded slightly in the challenge.

2. Woodcocks Roddwood Melody Sh. CM very pretty feminine headed tricolour bitch, well laid shoulders good spring of ribs and well coupled. Strong rearend and correct tailset. Moved well in profile.

**Veteran Bitch** (entries 11 abs 1)

1. Henningsson-Dundas CH Julemark Hussy 11 year old Tan & White bitch. I was lucky enough to go over her as a 15month old where she was my BOB so I was thrilled to go over her again. A very soft appealing expression well angulated throughout. Still a dream to watch on the move driving around with ease. Very pleased that she was Best Veteran in Show.

2. Woodcocks CH Rossgay Rouska at Roddwood JW Sh. CM. Tan and white I have admired many times and it was a great privilege to go over her. Gorgeous expression. Totally balanced to look at being well angulated all through, moved with plenty of freedom. It was very close between the two of these quality veterans and on another day they could easily swap places.

**Special Beginners Bitch** ( entries 7, abs 0)

1. Vickers Rosroden Cherry Kisses Tri bitch who was third in the Graduate bitch class. Good length of neck, level topline and good bend of stifle. Good set on of stern and tight feet. Moved with drive not as true coming and going.

2. McSheey Coachbarn Carnage at Machavos Black blanket bitch. Nice mascara with an appealing expression. Lighter mould than one, not as true on the move, would like to see a bit more weight on her as she looked tucked up and I feel this would help her outline.

Neil Stevens

Judge