

Large Munsterlander Club Open Show

Jubilee Field, Normanton-on-Soar October 1st 2017

It is always an honour to be invited to judge a Breed Club Show. My thanks to the Committee for their hospitality and an enjoyable day. Unfortunately the wet weather meant that judging took place indoors, where some exhibits who I know can move better outside, did not perform at their best.

I awarded Best in Show to Ch Raycris Freya JW who I have judged and critiqued before. She is now a veteran, and in my opinion has lost none of her 'mojo'. This lovely bitch has had an exceptional show career. Large Munsterlanders at present vary greatly in type and quality, and numbers entered at most shows are dropping. It can be challenging in any breed to constantly compete against a top winning dog or bitch, but there is a reason why judges across the board consistently place them so highly. I would say to the next generation of up and coming breeders, please study the dogs who do so well in their time to understand why- irrespective of affix or handler - they continue to win, and then aspire to breed one as good or better.

Minor Puppy Dog 1 (1a)

Puppy Dog 1 (1a)

Junior Dog no entries

Novice Dog no entries

Graduate Dog no entries

Post Graduate Dog no entries

Limit Dog , 2.

1st, Lloyd & Smith's Crumpsbrook Bayleaf Von Rulander, Res. Best Dog, This dog has improved and matured since I last Judged him, pleasing head and expression, firm top line, chest has now dropped to create a masculine balanced outline, well muscled, moved soundly with drive, would prefer him to carry tail a little less proudly.

2nd, Siddons' Fulaluv Beyond Belief, have admired this boy from the ringside and love his substance and overall type. The most handsome head and eye,

standing a bit croup high today, longer coupled and less muscled than 1, hence his hind movement was not so positive which cost him the class.

Open Dog, 3.

1st, Jenks' Kalabagh Lightning, Res. Best in Show, Best Dog Compact boy of medium size, Just coming to maturity, enough of him to be masculine and height meets breed standard. Lovely head proportions, kind expressive eye. Balanced angulation fore and aft, short coupled, firm top line, moved well with correct tail carriage

2nd, Taylor's Sh. Ch. Ichbin Jester of Tattay Sh.CM, another who is in his prime, beautiful head and expression, balanced short coupled dog with good depth through body and firm topline. Carrying more weight than when I last judged him and coat felt a bit dry today. Movement sound, but pulling sideways, I am sure would have performed better outside.

3rd, O'Connell's Ch. Raycris Quite The Charmer, a substantially boned male with many virtues, pleasing head, excellent depth of body and firm topline, longer coupled than first 2, moved soundly but would prefer lower tail carriage. Coat also dry over loin – perhaps the bathing over the show season has taken its toll on coat condition of 2 & 3.

Special Working Dog, 1.

1st, O'Connell's Ch. Raycris Quite The Charmer.

Veteran Dog, 2.

1st, Lloyd & Smith's Ch. Paddockridge Rulander, Nicely proportioned head, balanced boy with good angulation both ends. Condition and muscle not as good as he usually carries – I found out later has recovered from illness – he moved soundly though a bit close behind.

2nd, Kitchen's Tarkanya Bellas Bourbon Von Elkemutt, preferred head type of 1, kind intelligent expression, good body and rib, short coupled, also moved closer behind than I would like, and wide at elbow coming towards me.

Minor Puppy Bitch no entries

Puppy Bitch 2 (1a)

1st, Tordoff's Quilesta Just Elegant, Best Puppy In Show, Aptly named 10 month baby, pretty head, good topline, a bit leggy at the moment and hope does not grow any taller, balanced in angulation both ends, moved out and back nicely for an immature puppy.

Junior Bitch 1 (1a)

Novice Bitch 2 (2a)

Graduate Bitch 3 (2a)

1st, Ogle & Butler's Ursel Vom Ahler Esch At Raycris improved in head maturity since I last saw her, good topline, better hind angulation than front making her appear stuffy in neck, good depth of chest and short coupled, erratic on the move clearly would have preferred to be outside.

Post Graduate Bitch 2 (1a)

1st, O'Connell's Raycris Hey Jude, balanced bitch of taller type, pretty head with pleasing dark eye, nice body and spring of rib holds her top line well standing and moving, flows in profile but close behind going away

Limit Bitch 2

1st, Butler's Ichbin Jaunty of Jendella's Res Best Bitch Lovely head and expression, good eye colour and shape, mature in body which is deep and short coupled, balanced angulation, although less glamorous in coat than 2 she was the more workmanlike and movement flowed better in profile.

2nd Kitchen's Crumpsbrook Rather Regal Von Elkemutt. These two bitches were my closest decision of the day as they both have multiple virtues. Very pretty head and eye, more 'elegant' type and better furnishings than 1, just a bit longer coupled and not so positive in hind movement today.

Open Bitch 2

1st, Tordoff's Sh.Ch. Raycris Quite Unique At Crumpsbrook Mature bitch with a lot to like and very similar in type to her daughter in limit. Attractive head and expression, well proportioned deep body, good shoulder and front, lovely coat, moved with style and drive – in challenge for reserve best bitch I preferred hind movement and tail carriage of winner.

2nd, Suchett-Kaye's Cazooska Pixie At Settskaye may not grab the eye immediately but upon going over her has many virtues. Pleasing head, balanced angulation, narrower through front and body than 1, moved steadily holding top line.

Special Working Bitch 1

1st, Ogle & Butler's Ch. Raycris Freya JW. Best in Show, Best Veteran, Best Bitch this lovely bitch just fills the eye, and in my opinion deserves her many accolades. Lovely head and expression, good forechest, lacking in so many, excellent body proportions, excellent lay of shoulder and return of upper arm, balanced hind angulation. Now a veteran just beginning to drop her top line a little but this does not yet detract from her overall quality. Movement flows in profile as would be expected from her correct construction and is true coming towards and going away.

Veteran Bitch 1

1st, Ward's Incadar Illuminaire For Gemlorien elegant head and kind expression, hind angulation better than front therefore not as balanced as she could be, good body and coupling, another whose coat felt dry, moved steadily

Judge – Tina Williamson