

Southern Afghan Club CH Show 1 December 2024

I would firstly like to thank the Officers and Committee for their invitation to judge dogs at this lovely well run show, a show I have always loved, they work so hard to make a show to remember for us as exhibitors and their judges, thank you so very much.

Some societies are opting now for single judges, the Southern has kept two judges and what works is the single ring so no waiting for classes or clashing classes, and one lovely big ring to be able to get their hounds moving at their best. It all makes the show work so very well and spectators are able to watch the whole show. The show had a lovely atmosphere with spectators still there at the end of the show.

My thanks to my very capable stewards Pauline Mullins and Adrienne Thomas who kept my ring flowing which for me is imperative.

My thanks too to you exhibitors for bringing me your dogs and the sporting way you took my decisions. I was really pleased with the entry, both numerically and depth of quality. Presentation was excellent, although I must comment on the clipping of saddles, our standard calls for the coat to develop naturally and there should be no evidence of clipping or scissoring, it spoils the whole look of the saddle. My concern of short shoulder blades is still evident, please look to keeping the balance of good length to shoulder blade & corresponding upper arm, this impacts so much on the front movement. Some hounds I found too that were carrying too much weight, with some needing better muscle condition all impacting on movement making it sloppy.

Afghan Hounds Dogs

Baby Puppy Dog

Oh what a lovely class & so good to see quality puppies with bright futures ahead of them, with some at different stages to the others. It was good to see the handlers moving them at speeds to suit the babies too, well done. It will be interesting to watch them develop. 1st Gleed & Mcpherson Chinzaes Tartantiger At Ksiadz – 5 ½ month old gold brindle boy, he really took the whole affair in his stride, nicely balanced throughout, masculine head & dark eye, good length of neck into well laid shoulders & corresponding upper arm, good depth & balanced quarters, finished off with a ringed tail, he moved really well showing lots of promise, pleased that he went Best Baby Puppy In Show, 2nd Mclay Chinzaes Tartan Highlander – black/silver litter brother to the winner & so much to like about him, balanced throughout, took the whole event in his stride, moving well, 3rd Lancashire & O'Donnell Drishaun Consider This Baby

Minor Puppy

1st Reed Way Up Portofino (Imp Ita) Black masked gold brindle, Pleasing head under all the whiskers, dark eye, well balanced front assembly, good depth, good fallaway, well set on ringed tail, good length from hip to hock, a very promising puppy, he moved really well, pleased to award him Best Puppy Dog & RBPIS, 2nd Sharp Affyneeta Above & Beyond Self masked cream, with good pigmentation, pleasing head, good length of neck into well laid shoulders, well balanced throughout, handled & presented in lovely condition, moved well.

Puppy

1st Sharp Affyneeta Above & Beyond

Veteran

Oh what a lovely class of mature gentlemen, so lovely to see them out enjoying themselves, I wish I had three red cards, 1st Latimer Ch Jeremiah De Koulanger At Zharook JW VW (Imp Fra) shaded masked gold, 10 years young & shown in lovely condition, masculine head & lovely expression, good length of neck, balanced front & rear angulation, great depth of chest, good fallaway & tail carriage, presented in grand condition moving with drive & purpose, Best Veteran Dog, 2nd Winters Garamond Cloudberry For Tokando 11 ½ black with lovely head & expression, good length of neck, balanced front & rear, good quarters & ringed tail, moved really well, 3rd Seamarks & Nemoto Sayadena Northern Lights (Imp Bel) VW another 10 years young self masked pale gold, in lovely condition, unlucky to meet the winners.

Junior

1st Hughes Istani Bob Dylan At Finkime Black/silver Upstanding 14 month old male with good head & expression, good length of neck into well laid shoulders & upper arm, with balanced quarters, good depth & well ribbed, finished off with ringed tail. Presented in lovely condition, he moved well at one with his handler, lovely to see bare pasterns.

Yearling

1st Lancashire & O'Donnell Drishaun Baby's In Black upstanding black/tan, lovely head & expression, good length of neck, into well laid shoulders & upper arm, well ribbed with good depth, good length from hip to hock, finished

with a ringed tail, shown in tip top body & coat condition, real credit to his owners, he moved with style & purpose, lovely boy.

Graduate

1st Lees Altside Micah Hot Prophet self masked cream, pleasing head & expression, with good pigmentation, good length of neck, well laid shoulders & return of upper arm, good depth, great length from hip to hock, his handler got the best from him, showing his style on the move, presented in tip top condition, I'm sure we will see him winning well in the future 2nd Drage Zedushkas Born To Run Isjulees self masked gold, different type to winner, pleasing head & expression, with balanced front & rear, can be a bit over exuberant on the move, but his time will come, 3rd Macmillan Sitana The Winter Soldier

Post Graduate

1st Drage Shimalma Drambuie Isjulees shaded masked gold, maturing into a lovely hound, classic head & expression with lovely chiseling, good length of neck into well laid shoulders, good depth, balanced quarters which he used well on the move, beautifully presented, made the most of the lovely big ring, to win this class, 2nd Gizewska Shahfoladi Thunderbird black/silver maturing well, a lovely head & dark eye, good length of neck, with balanced front & rear & depth, moved well, another promising boy, a close decision between him & the winner, 3rd Gunn Katangas God Of Thunder

Mid Limit

1st Newton Shimalma Jagermeister litter brother to Post Grad winner & very similar, shaded masked pale gold in immaculate condition, maturing well, classic head with lovely chiseling, good length of neck, balanced front & rear, good depth, finished off with ringed tail, moved well, 2nd French Sitana Moon Knight At Zalmeerah black/tan masculine head with dark & lovely expression, good length of neck into well laid shoulders & return, good depth, balanced quarters, finished with ringed tail, different type to winner but a close decision, handled & presented in lovely condition

Limit

1st Gorman & Latimer Shahfoldi Sphinx Riddle At Zharook black/silver who was my BPIB the last time I judged & he is maturing into a lovely hound, masculine head & dark eye, good length of neck, into balanced shoulders & return, good depth, with moderate length to back, sweeping quarters finished off with a ringed tail, he moved really well covering the ground, presented in lovely condition to win this strongly contested class, 2nd Trainor, Trainor & Rogers Tulak Fast And Furious shaded masked gold of lovely type, masculine head & dark eye, well balanced front & rear, finished with ringed tail, he moved really well, I would prefer a tad less weight on him, handled & presented in lovely bloom 3rd Parker Saxonmill Majic Moment At Khatira

Open

What a fabulous class with some superb dogs, hair splitting decisions to be made, just not enough red cards

1st Reed Cloudside Sunstrike I first met this boy as a young man at Crufts where he won a strong Yearling class under me, I loved him then, I then awarded him the RCC at Richmond, well today he pulled out all the stops, from the minute he walked into the ring to him winning a strongly contested BIS over a lovely bitch on the referees decision. He has matured so well, he is in full bloom, as the saying goes a fine wine gets better with age & this boy has matured into a fine Afghan. Black masked silver brindle, masculine head with the darkest of eyes & the desired expression, long neck into well balanced shoulders & upper arm, grand depth & lovely ribbing, short loin, good fall away, great sweep from hip to hock & a ringed completing the picture, he moved with great style covering the ground never putting a foot wrong using all the ring & never let his handler down. Handled and presented in top drawer condition. I was thrilled to be able to give him the CC, his 3rd & crowning CC, very well done & thank you for bringing him, 2nd James Ch Syrdarya Darjeeling Chai Of Simkhan self masked red, a classic head & good chiseling, dark eye & shape giving the correct expression, long neck into well laid shoulders & good return of upper arm, good depth, well ribbed with moderate length great sweep from hip to hock, & finished with a ringed tail, he moved with style & presence covering the ground with long strides, I loved him, unlucky to meet the winner but a well deserved RCC, 3rd Winters Ch Pashtari Lord Tennyson Tokando JW.

Judge – Wendy Bastow (Karandikar)