

THE LEONBERGER CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN CH SHOW

12 November 2022

It was with much pleasure that I accepted the invitation to judge the males at this prestigious event, with my co-judge being the highly respected breed doyen Mrs Jenny Davie. Stoneleigh is a super venue, affording good light, spacious rings, a decent floor with ample space for all to relax and enjoy the proceedings. The enthusiastic committee and their aides had everything in tickety boo order and my stewards were so well schooled, that all I had to do was judge the dogs!! I feel that the breed is not as strong in depth of quality that it was some years ago. Heads vary enormously, over flat skulls, lack of stop, bulging cheeks loss of eye shape, colour and expression, over developed, barrel shaped ribs, and weakness in hocks as well as too often weak & far from straight pasterns. Some fronts were reminiscent of Charlie Chaplin...but only those of a certain age would appreciate that!! Thankfully were still some very good examples of the breed to go over and the top awards were richly deserved. BIS was the male Ch Corleone Navigator at Kalizmar, BOS the bitch Ch Averkate Cassandra With Simden (Imp Rus), BP the dog Amathus Karmer and BVIS the bitch Ch Starlake Cristol Confiture.

Vet.Dog (3/1) Two golden oldies and both so worthy of their crowns and a credit to their owners. They look like Champions and they were hard to split. I felt the winner had the better stop definition and his ribcage was more oval shaped whereas the 2nd was more barrel for me. However, Lucky 1 had the firmer pasterns. Both were well coated and had such good profile actions. 1st Beddis' Ch Engelben Fred In The Woods 2nd Brown's Ch Davenheath Feeling Lucky to Brenaljay JW ShCM

MPD (1) 1st Ackerman's Dragongardens Soul On Fire just 8 months a so very raw. At present lacks forechest and needs to strengthen in hock. Pleasing head shape, enough length of neck and a good rib shape and depth. Level in back, moderate bend of stifle, well coated. Weaving about on the move which did not help his hock action.

PD(7) 1st & BP Thomas' Amathus Karmer lots to like about this chap. He was the best behaved both stacked and on the move. Pleasing head, I would like a more defined stop but he has good eyes and well placed ears, with enough muzzle. Scores in reach of neck and width in thigh. A bit gay with his tail for me but hopefully that will settle with maturity. His smoother profile action won the day. 2nd Jump's Benellieson Time Lord much less advanced in body development. I liked his head proportions, excellent eyes for colour and expressions, enough neck, not the body finish of the winner and played up moving, except circling the ring which he did well. 3rd Boswell's Anjaleo Black Jack much to like, especially his head and expression. He has a lovely reach in neck and was well groomed but at present is very weak in pastern and moving much too close behind.

JD(8/1) 1st Lear-Schofield & Schofield's Alfross Romabo Harper tall, appealing outline when stacked using his neck to good advantage. Quality head, well defined stop and such a reach in neck, level backed and a nicely rounded croup. Shown in good bloom, lovely tight feet, his action is balanced and shows good reach and drive in profile. A bright future I'm sure. 2nd Vorrias' Lionsridge Lord of the Rings scored in head quality, smooth cheeked, good stop, slightly rounded forehead and such expressive, knowing eyes. Pasterns need to firm up a lot which detract from his action when fore viewed. Side on he shows reach and drive. Not in the best of jackets compared to the winner. 3rd Probert's Morwinas Warhammer another which if just judged on head quality would be a hard nut to crack. It is so balanced, all male in expression, good stop and so clean in cheek with well set and carried ears adding to his charm. At this stage his pasterns are weak both when stacked and fore viewed in action and he did not have the rear hock drive of those I put over him. Well coated and groomed.

YD(3/1) 1st Lionslord Lord of the Rings 2nd Morwinas Warhammer

ND(3) 1st Jubb's Anjaleo Debo Borhap handsome, well balanced head with lovely stop, eyes and expression adding to his appeal. Excellent reach of neck giving good head carriage, Whilst he is well ribbed his backline dips when stacked but improves as he moves around the ring! There he shows balance, reach and drive. 2nd A. Karmer 3rd Sevastopulo's Amber Vitkernel King Crimson Oldholbans (Imp Blr) super, friendly tail wagger. Pleasing head with a good neck, tail never stops wagging and he almost smiles with good nature. Lacks angulation both ends so steps short in profile action He has a good reach of neck which he uses well. Not being in the best of coats did little to help his cause.

GD(7/2) 1st Haigh's Bavaruki Jitterbug With Leonbeck very stylish middle sized dog exuding an air of quality. His head is clean cut, well balanced and definitely masculine. Very good eyes for colour, shape and expression, sufficient neck, lovely spring and depth of rib, in excellent coat and his profile action takes the eye, smooth and effective. His presence added to the charm of the challenge. 2nd L. Lord of the Rings 3rd Burrell's Leoflaed World in Union. such a kind and knowing eye and expression on this chap. I felt those I put over him had that tad better reach in neck and with more hind angulation so their side action was better balanced,. He was a credit in coat and body with well weighted bone and strong legs and feet.

PGD(6) 1st Tratt's Nexgen Apache Chief apart from the fact that his backline could be tighter, I liked him lots. Scores in head proportions, excellent foreface, decent stop and having such a knowing expression from well shaped and coloured eyes. Good length/height proportions, in full bloom coat wise and with a bit more rear angulation his side action would have been more effective. But he is sound. 2nd Walker's Condalf Final Chance not the ribbing of the winner being that tad slimmer in rib. Otherwise I thought him to be a handsome headed dog with a knowing expression, good length/height balance and a well moulded croup. And his action is a delight to watch as he perambulates the ring with reach and drive. 3rd Simmond's Teffills Zalman (Imp Rus) much to like with this very stylish dog. On the stack he is balanced, sufficient reach of neck, exudes

a degree of style as his head is well balanced and his expression so alive. However, he was moving very close behind and is much too proud of his tail for me. But he has charm!

LD(10/2) 1st & Res CC Lear-Schofield & Schofield's Alfross Kapuko Haruki a bit of a deceptive chap as he did not have instant appeal on the stack as he could have more width in thigh. However, on the move he blossomed, reach and drive, keeping his shape as he almost floated effortlessly around the ring with consummate ease suggesting he could work all day. He owns a lovely head and expression, is well ribbed and whilst I thought he was overbuilt behind, handling proved that just to be coat Can be a little proud of his tail at times but I felt he has breed type.. 2nd Bells Debbolingby Kruz Control for Wasserhund such a light in action, very sound moving dog. Well balanced head, such good eyes and that knowing expression, ample neck, well shaped ribs he is well angulated both ends. Not in full coat which slightly went against him but very worthy of this spot in this quality class 3rd Wilson's Eanske's Drikus V Hescos Leos For Jantonely lots to admire in this b/m fawn dog On the stack he displays a decent neck, level back, nicely moulded croup and balanced angulation both ends. Presented in good body and coat, I especially noted the kindness and brightness of expression in his eyes. Lost out to those above on being somewhat closer in hock on the move than I like and his feet could be neater.

OD(7/1) 1st CC & BOB Studholme' Ch Corleone Navigator at Kalizmar at first glance he was my obvious winner. Size, style, shape, gleaming coat condition, eye catching outline and that flowing shape. Breed type in abundance then something spooked him as I went over him and he became withdrawn. However, with perseverance my patience won the day and he annexed the CC & BOB with the total agreement of my co judge, Jenny Davie, who is a much respected breed authority. My only criticism is that he is moved much too fast - no need to over extend him and he is more impressive at a slower pace. 2nd Alexander's Sulandi Bring Me Sunshine a very stylish dog with heaps to admire. I especially liked his head properties, eyes and an expression which is so alive and intelligent. Lovely length/height proportions, nicely ribbed, super reach of neck, and well muscled hindquarters. Not in the bloom of those I put over him and he is just that bit proud of his tail for me. But on the stack he has much appeal. 3rd D. Kruz Control for W.

Breeders Class (1) 1st Lear-Schofield & Schofield's Alfross team. A well matched quartet.

Albert Wight (Judge)