

Leonberger Club of GB Open Show 4th June 2017 – Judge Pippa Davies

Firstly many thanks to the committee for inviting me to judge, an honour to judge at a club show. Thanks also to all of those who entered, a fabulous entry showing good support for the club. Apologies to those who handled more than one dog and therefore did a fair amount of running! Due to the uneven ground many dogs appeared lame; I tried to give each dog every opportunity to move across different areas of the ring to see if movement improved which in many cases it did. I was more sympathetic to very young and older dogs as they in particular struggled on the very undulating ground.

I found it very frustrating the amount of dogs that were poorly presented/groomed and/or lacking in muscle tone which had an impact on movement. Conformation cannot be changed, however dog showing is such an expensive hobby it is well worth making that extra effort before you get in the ring as it can make all the difference to your placings!

Lastly thanks to my stewards, for my step-daughters first time stewarding I thought she was very efficient! Both did an excellent job, and kept things running as efficiently as possible while I took my time and enjoyed the day!

Class 1 Veteran Dog (4,2)

1st Lear-Schofield & Schofield's Kwenobe Balfen Chaska

Lovely quality male of excellent breed type, super head and expression. Ample bone, size and substance, good construction front and rear making this boy really well balanced. Good width and depth of chest, still holding good muscle for age, was the better mover of the 2 in this class on uneven surface. Very happy boy! Moved better again in the challenge to take well deserved RBD & BVIS

2nd Hutchinson & Lester's JSY CH Nahkolam Blue Water

Another good size male, masculine head, strong neck well set on shoulder. Correct angulation front and rear, well balanced. Preferred expression of 1, also lacking the muscle of 1 particularly on his hind end which meant he didn't move as well, and wasn't as forward as he might have been.

Class 2 Minor Puppy Dog (3,0)

3 litter brothers, just 6 months old, very raw and could not mistake them being litter mates!

1st Baldwin's Brynarian Balilaika

Well grown puppy, good bone, nice head and super sweet expression, good mask. Well angulated front and matching rear. Good reach of neck and strong shoulders for such a young lad, with well-developed fore chest. Steady on the move holding his top line well, in good coat well presented. Promising puppy! BPD, RBPIS

2nd Osben & Davis' Brynarian Ballybofey

V similar attributes to 1 – erratic on the move to start but improved when settled, not as balanced or mature as 1. Slightly bum high at the moment not helping him today. Better forechest than 3.

3rd Watson's Brynarian Balli Mai

As 1 & 2, not quite the bone of his brothers and head needs to come, top line not the best on the move at the moment but moved ok, will need time to mature.

Class 3 Puppy Dog (0,0)

Class 4 Junior Dog

1st Folkes's Dacfolke Obie Odakota

Well-proportioned male, mature for age, balanced front and rear, well defined mask though would prefer darker eye. Excellent bone + substance for young male, super tight feet. Good width to chest, followed up behind. Prefer his expression when alert as his ears tend to disappear when relaxed. Moved with drive.

2nd Mears' Euphrosin Bakenranef

Older male, not quite the substance of 1 though well balanced. Super rich red colour though not in full coat, loved his head and expression, much to like about his boy would like to see him when he has had chance to mature. Best mover in the class, only lost out to 1 as not as together on the day.

3rd Bell's Vectiseleon Kiaja Wolfrik

Lovely dark eye & mask which helps with super expression on this boy. In good coat, good bone, would like more angulation front and rear but may come with age. Top line a little weak on the move, nice young male with good potential, needs time.

Class 5 Graduate Dog (4,0)

1st Lear – Schofield & Schofield's Alfross Kapuko Suneclipse

Good size male well off for bone, lovely outline, correct angles front and rear making a well-balanced boy. Liked his head and dark eye, flews could be tighter. Well set shoulders, good width of chest, super top line well held on the move, in good coat. Won this class as had the edge on maturity and more settled on the move.

2nd Goodchild's Carozza Sole Survivor

1 & 2 could change easily, Good balance and angles of this boy, would like more rectangular head and tighter flews. Got better on the move the more he did. Much stronger on rear movement than 3. Promising young male, needs to grow in confidence with his handler then will be able to show his full potential.

3rd Cleary's Zola's Zento F1 Vom Lowengarten for Benellieson

Lovely Male of super breed type, super rich red coat, good bone, super head and expression. Very promising dog – needs to fill out and gain muscle to improve movement. May well be one to watch once he has matured.

Class 6 Post Graduate Dog (5,0)

1st Thorne's Simden Frostbite

Medium size male with good bone, super head with good mask and correct dentition, expression could be improved with slightly darker eye. Lovely reach of neck well set on good width of shoulder. Would like more angulation front and rear and more developed fore chest to go with his width of chest. Having said that in good overall balance though a little narrow behind making him a little close behind on the move. Does move well in profile.

2nd Jump & Cole's Simden Gros Biscous of Lowenhohle

Brother to 1 similar in type and similar attributes, again would prefer darker eye but well-proportioned male in good balance, super top line held well on the move.

3rd Denton's Lionscourt Galactica

Stood this dog was my class winner; oozing presence this boy has a super masculine head and expression, good strong neck and front assembly. Very well made, moderate angulation front and rear, rock solid top line. So much to like but sadly his movement really let him down, really lacking muscle tone and it showed. So much potential – would love to see him in the future.

Class 7 Limit Dog (11,4)

1st Burrells' Seaxa Nelson

Good size rust red male, good bone, lovely head and expression, dark well set eye of correct shape, nice tight mouth. Lovely reach of neck sitting well on ample shoulders, ok for angulation front and rear making him well balanced, super solid top line, held on the move. Super well-muscled made a big difference, best mover in this class.

2nd Niall & Rothery's Davenheath Forever Blue JW ShCM

Medium size male, dark eye, good mask, slightly loose flews. Would prefer more elongated head to get correct rectangular proportions. Strong shoulders and deep chest, in good coat well presented. Moved well in profile but fairly wide behind when moving away from me – not helped by the ground.

3rd Brown's Davenheath Feeling Lucky to Brenaljay

Good head type, good reach of neck and well balanced throughout. In good coat though coming out in tufts! Moved well to earn his 3rd lacked the ring presence of 1 & 2

Class 8 Open dog (4,1)

1st Lear-Schofield & Schofield's Ch Lempileijonan Itse Kateudenpoika (imp Fin)

Super size male very dark mask and good dark eye, super proportions to his head, very typical roman nose. Well angulated front and rear, level top line. Would like more fore chest but still only a young male. In good coat though presentation could be improved. Loved his outline on the move, great power and drive yet also displayed the grace and elegance you would expect from this breed. Quality boy no doubt with an exciting future for himself and his offspring! BD & RBIS only beaten by his daughter.

2nd Burrell's Rossnick Quest for A Star ShCM

Another quality male, Lovely head and expression though completely different type to 1. Very well made, plenty of dog to go over and doesn't disappoint at all. Perhaps lacks a little presence and would like to see him a bit more animated on the move. In superb condition and fantastic muscle!

3rd Cleary's Sandor Vom Lowengarten for Benellison

A Male I have seen before and he has since matured well. Good size and plenty of bone, well made. Super fore chest, well angulated front and rear. In full coat which though glorious makes him look bum high when standing, and does his top line no favours. Carrying a bit too much weight which didn't help him on the move – need to strengthen pasterns as well to help him reach his full potential.

Class 9 Veteran Bitch (8,3)

1st Westwood's Ch Jocolda Chie Mihara

Standout quality bitch in this class, love her shape and has such presence even stood. Super feminine head and expression, good mask and dark eye. Fabulous bone, good reach of neck, strong broad shoulders, correct angles front and rear. Rock solid top line for an older bitch. Would like more muscle on the rear but not always easy with an older dog. Moved ok on the ground.

2nd Lear-Schofield's Kwenobe Zendi Yenta at Alfross

Ultra feminine girl of good bone, fabulous coat and furnishings. Great eye, well balanced throughout. Super outline, sluggish on the move today but love her type, another quality bitch.

3rd Peter's Rossnick Million Dollar Baby

Lovely rich red girl with super expressive head. Nice dark eye and mask. Super front, good reach of neck, well balanced, lovely outline. I wish all my exhibits had the muscle this girl had on her back end!! Won her place on her breed type and expressive head.

Class 10 Minor Puppy Bitch (5,0)

1st Lear-Schofield & Schofield's Alfross Kapakira Kofel

Well grown feminine bitch, pleasing head, good outline and everything in the right place. Would like more width to chest but may come with time. Moved very well once settled, stood out in a class of very raw babies.

2nd Anderson's Debbollinby Angel Dust

Very nice baby with good bone, very correct and straight when viewed front and rear. Well balanced for a young baby. Would prefer head a little more feminine, out moved by 1 today.

3rd Wescomb's Brynarian Ballikissangel

Very raw baby with lots of growing to do. Super pretty head, dark eye, good firm top line. Super fore chest, moved ok but not the drive of 1 & 2.

Class 11 Puppy bitch (5,2)

1st Rushby's Leosrus Forget Me Not

What a quality girl this puppy is! Not really a fan of the darker overlay but her shading really suits this lady, correct red coat to root. Super feminine head of correct proportions, dark eye and good pigment, scissor bite and correct dentition. Lovely reach of neck well laid into strong shoulders, good width of chest with a good fore chest. Firm top line held on the move. Moderate angulation front and rear, ample bone, correct tail set. Really shines on the move, has great reach and drive showing power from her well-muscled hind quarters yet with the elegance typical of the breed. Real ring presence, not in full coat but had enough and was well

presented in hard condition. Met her father in the challenge for best of breed and showed great maturity to out move him and took well deserved BB, BIS, BPIS.

2nd Westwood's Leosrus Unforgettable

Litter sister to 1 and very similar – many of the same attributes. Lighter than 1 and not quite the attitude. Moves as well as her sister but not always shown to her best when standing, no doubt a promising future when she matures.

3rd Peplow's Mayaberg Equiana's Answer

Promising puppy, different type to 1 & 2, feminine head and expression, well balance but would like more angulation front and rear. Moved ok though not the reach or power of first 2, could be better presented.

Class 12 Junior Bitch (5,1)

1st Anderson's Debbollinby Shining Light

Medium bitch, good bone. Correct rectangular head, though could have more stop, well balanced, good top line. Dark well set eye, good mask and good reach of neck flowing into strong shoulders and good fore chest. Very correct straight limbs when viewed from all sides, strong pasterns and hocks. Moved with super drive and power to win the class.

2nd Thomas' Didleo Europa Star

Nice young bitch, correct angles front and rear give her a nice outline, lovely dark eye and mask but would prefer more feminine head. Good reach of neck, good muscle tone. Very promising young lady.

3rd Francis' Didleo Chardonnay Star

Not quite the angles of 1 & 2 though has super feminine head and expression. Moved ok, presentation could be improved.

Class 13 Graduate Bitch (5,2)

1st Cole's Quen Star Sagitta Isla Bonita Jamacia Sunrise (imp Pol)

Beautiful girl, super dark eye and liked her expression though head could be more feminine. Superb proportions, firm top line, good angles front and back, good width of chest and good fore chest. In good coat, moved very well, well handled.

2nd Lear-Schofield & Schofield's Alfross Kapuko Lunaclipse

Feminine girl with lots to like, super shape and very well balanced, good dark mask. Lots to like just didn't move as well as 1.

3rd Hurren's Angel Kingdom Cake Caramel Ekkor Shaleodust (imp Hun)

Good size girl with more developing to do, nice head though eye could be darker which would improve expression. Not the width of chest of 1 & 2. Carrying a little puppy fat which affected her movement and her top line.

Class 14 Post graduate Bitch (4,1)

1st Folkes' Dacfolke Rhosyn

Super feminine girl, med height, well set ears, dark mask and eye made for pleasing expression. Good reach of neck, super well balanced, firm top line, in great coat well presented. Young handler did a great job showing this girl to her best.

2nd Brown's Davenheath Foxy Lady to Brenaljay

Another very feminine girl, well made, would prefer darker eye. Good top line, could have more angulation but overall well balanced, in good coat and moved well, a fraction long cast.

Class 15 Limit Bitch (9,4)

1st Westwood's Leosrus One To Remember

Pleasure to judge this class as some very good quality bitches.

This girl may have been naked but was the outstanding mover in the class, powered round the ring in some style with great elegance. Very pretty head, eye could be a shade darker but being picky! Super shape and balance. Super firm top line well held on the move with excellent tail carriage to complete the picture. Being

naked there was nowhere to hide and could see how well constructed this girl is. Would love to see her wearing a coat! Only beaten by her half-sister, whom she couldn't match for presence. RBB

2nd Wescomb's Starlake Capella

How lovely to see an older girl moving with such enthusiasm! Good outline, feminine head, super dark mask and eye. Well of for angulation all round, good for chest, correct tail set. Head could be bigger to make in proportion to body.

3rd Peter's Rosnick Ramalamadingdong

Super well-made bitch. Love her size and substance, lovely outline nice head and expression. Super strong fore chest and so well-muscled, could easily imagine this girl pulling a cart all day with no problems!! Moves with surprising lightness that defies her rather vast frame. Carrying a fraction to much weight which I'm sure could improve her movement further if lost.

Class 16 Open Bitch (6,2)

1st Niall & Rothery's Davenheath Dainty Lady

Super pretty and ultra-feminine bitch, medium size and ample bone. Dark mask and eye. Well balanced, good angles, good fore chest. Fantastic tight feet, very fluffy which makes her look bum high stood but actually good level top line. Moved out well to win the class. A good quality honest bitch just not quite the showmanship of the top winners.

2nd Baldwin's Brynarian Mauna Loa

Lovely bitch of good size, good bone, excellent top line. Super well laid shoulders and strong neck. Good width of chest and fore chest. Good angles, moves well for a big girl.

3rd Dalison's Dacfolke Xanthia

Another good size bitch with lots to like, feminine head with good mask and dark eye. Super top line. Well angulated rear good tail set. Lack of muscle let this girl down on the move.

Class 17 Special Breeders

1st M J & B J Landgrebe

Won as showed a great likeness and consistency, all moved well, had good bone and substance.

2nd C E Lear-Schofield & J Schofield

Close second – just not as consistent in type as but a great collection of Leo's of good breed type

3rd G & T Thomas

Not as many in number but still good quality!