Irish Wolfhound Club Championship Show 2021. 12th December Judge: Jean Timmins (Cornovi)

It was a privilege for me to judge this show, my Stewards and the Club Committee did an outstanding job organising the show, and I would like to thank all the exhibitors who managed to attend in what has been a challenging year for entries generally.

It's always good to take a step back and look at what we see as common factors when we judge a larger field of entries, I was pleased with the overall quality of the hounds present. My takeaway impression was that conformation wise; we still struggle in terms of forehand construction. Forward placed upperarm can't provide the necessary attachment for filling out beneath the breastbone to give enough depth and width of the chest. While hindquarters were generally better constructed, finding accurate hind action isn't always easy, and some placings were lost due to untidiness of the rear action in otherwise lovely hounds. Proportionate length of leg overall was good. I was pleased to find that small rosebud ears were aplenty. I had become concerned we were losing this characteristic which so defines the sighthound family. In addition to its practical application in a hunting sighthound, the correct placement and size of the ears have a significant impact on the overall appearance of the head. The eye colour was generally dark, although there are a few round eyes, which give the dog a rather startled expression. Among the many positives from the day was the crop of quality youngsters coming through; it bodes well for the future.

MINOR PUPPY DOG. 2, (1)

 Gregory & Warwick's CAIRNSTORM RENEGADE. 6 months old, shapely puppy, good bite, well set ears, balanced well angulated front and good depth of rib, well angulated rear with lovely wide hock joint, notably well off for bone, very together on the move for his age, tail carried low. BEST PUPPY IN SHOW.

PUPPY DOG - 1, (3)

- Evans's KILLOUGHERY RICOCHET WITH BRAEWISAN. Slightly finer and rangier tall pup, lovely long head, ear set high and rosed, nicely laid forehand, well angled rear, loved his overall length and scope, rather playful today but when he settled, easy action and moves true.
- Evan's GALLANT WARRIOR. Substantial puppy enjoying his day, nice masculine head, slightly large ear, well laid shoulder, and upper arm, at this stage narrow through his front, well ribbed back and fair hind angulation.

JUNIOR DOG -5, (1)

- Pateman's WHITEORCHARD ATLAS. Handsome hound, well-proportioned standing over plenty of ground, good length of neck well laid forequarters, excellent bone, tight feet, nice rise over the loin, well tucked up underline, correct slope over the croup into well angled rear long thighs of good width and muscle, and low lock joint, very light easy active movement.
- Reeves's WHITEORCHARD ARCTURUS, Litter brother and very similar in all aspects, he is a little broader in head and today felt heavier set, but lovely curvy outline, plenty of bone and leg length, well angled fore and rear, good reach on the move.
- 3. Hooper's FLOYDIAN AFFRIC Substantial dog of good type, rather playing his handler today, well-proportioned head, good length of neck into well laid shoulder and upper arm, good depth all through, little too steep in croup, nicely bent stifle, would like a little more width of hock joint.

YEARLING DOG - 2

- 1. Hooper's FLOYDIAN AFFRIC
- 2. Croucher's ELECTRIC ATMOSPHERE Fourth in Junior Dog. When stacked he has a lot to like about him, very tall red hound, a little plain in head, good ears well set, strong neck, nice lines to him, plenty of length, all his growth has gone upwards losing his angulation at this age and causing him to be narrow. Flying his tail on the move and moving close behind, needs time.

NOVICE DOG 2, (1)

 Harpwood's GAELMARQUE DARK HORSE AT FINLOREN – Handsome head, well set ear, feels rather heavy over the shoulder, ribbing carried well back, plenty of width across pelvis would prefer more rear angulation. Very free and easy side movement.

GRADUATE DOG 2, (1)

 Severn-Kumar's GAELMARQUE RUSSET ROMAN – My notes say very sound typical dog with lovely side action, kept in for the movement cup. I would like to see a slightly better lay of upper arm, but he has plenty of depth and is well-ribbed back, good top line, short loin, and nicely angled quarters with good line over the croup, tight feet.

POST GRADUATE DOG 4, (2)

- Dawson's HYDEBECK DREAM TYME OF GRAEFYN Presents a lovely outline when stacked, would prefer a shade more length of leg, well angled rear quarters with low hock, nicely laid shoulder and upperarm, masculine head, small neat ear, moving close behind today and flying his tail.
- Fox's NEWDIGATE MARLON BRANDO (AI) Very tall male, won the height cup. Balanced height to length, but he's lost angulation in his upward growth and is rather narrow, hope he settles into his huge frame, moves well behind, lovely tight feet.

 Webb's FLOYDIAN SYRACUSE AT FOINAVEN. Really liked this typey male, carrying too much coat at the moment, masculine head of good even proportions, small tight ear, touch low set. Lovely shoulder and upper arm set, matching rear angulation, wide hock joint, body well ribbed back, side action smooth, correct rise over topline to croup. Rear action bit uncoordinated today.

OPEN 3

- 2. Das Purkayastha's BALLYPHELAN ASANOL AMONG NECKREBAGH. Heading a class of three very different males but all good type. I liked this hound for his balance, he had the better width in chest; strongly muscled neck with plenty of breadth into well laid shoulder and upper arm, body well ribbed back, good tuck up, gentle rise over loin to a well laid croup with plenty of width across his pelvis. Well angulated rear and broad hock joint set nice and low, sound stead movement and good rear action. Dog CC and Res BIS.
- 3. Sumner's BALLYPHELAN AMADEUS, RES. CC Littermate to 1 and a lovely shapely hound, more elegant in type, lovely head, and balanced overall shape, plenty of leg length and angulation, moved strongly around the ring, his brother had the edge on him today. RES DOG CC.
- 4. Webb's GOLDSWIFT MISSION POSSIBLE FOR INKLEYBOYS. More compact hound. Super head, good length of neck, nicely laid shoulder, good forechest, plenty of depth of rib, correct rise over loin and croup, nice easy profile action.

CHAMPION CLASS -1, (1)

VETERAN BITCH 3,(1)

- Cramphorn's YELXBA VICTORIA ShCM strongly made balanced bitch and one I have always liked. Well angulated front and rear well filled chest, very pleasing to go over and such sound movement. I had her pencilled in to challenge for the movement cup. Best veteran.
- 2. Evans's BRAEWISAN ORLAITH. Very pretty girl, nicely angulated, plenty of breadth through chest and body, good line over the loin, moved out with energy and enthusiasm.

MINOR PUPPY BITCH 4, (3)

1. Gregory's KILLOUGHERY REDEMPTION. Very appealing rangy puppy, very shapely, lovely long well-proportioned head, ear well set, plenty of bone and excellent feet, nicely angulated front and matching rear, moved out with a sound free action, wagging her tail and enjoying her day.

JUNIOR BITCH

- Heather's WHITEORCHARD AURORA. Rangy outline, head of good length proportions, ear small well set, nice shoulder would prefer more lay to upper arm, well ribbed back and super well angulated hindquarters with wide hock set low, nice rise over loin to correctly laid croup and good tail set. Easy flowing true action on the move.
- 2. Webb & Simmons's FLOYDIAN INCHYRA Really liked her type, very substantial, good chest, well laid shoulder and upper arm, good tuck up well ribbed back and well angulated hind quarters. A little steep over the croup now and touch close behind today but one to watch.
- 3. Sales's OH BABY! VON DER EICHENKOPPEL (IMP DEU) Wheaten of rangy proportions, pretty head, rosed ear, good width of chest, good bone, good depth of chest and balanced front and rear angulation, just looking rather bum high in her growth at the moment.

YEARLING BITCH 4,(1)

- Forret's VALKIRIA DELLA BASSA PAVESE AT CULVERCROFT (IMP ITA) Close between 1 and 2. This bitch is balanced in proportions, would prefer harsher coat, good forechest, well laid shoulders, good depth of body, short loin, well tucked up underline, and nicely angulated rear, carrying plenty of muscle and when in sync with her handler, lovely sound action.
- 2. Ashby's ASHGROAVE CRYSTAL SOVOY. Lovely typey bitch, good length of neck, well laid shoulder and upper arm and super forechest. Good depth of body, just looking too long in loin today, nice topline and rear angles, moving touch close behind, but will watch her with interest.

Kingsely & Cope's BONAFORTE'S WISH COME TRUE FOR DAINWOLF Tall bitch with pretty head of good proportions. Houndy outline, at this young age, just needing more depth and width of chest, with more layback of upperarm. Nicely angled hindquarters, tight feet. Super reach in side action and moving true towards.

NOVICE BITCH 8,(5)

 Heather's WHITEORCHARD AD ASTRA. Stood out for balance and outline. Lovely head small well-set ear, good length of neck with broad set into a good shoulder lay, complimentary upper arm set, giving good forechest. Preferred her overall breadth and bone, deep ribs well carried back, correct rise over loin and gentle slope to croup, well angled rear. Movement easy and flowing true in all directions.

- 2. Sale's MANEATER VON DER EICHENKOPPEL (IMP DEU) Bitch of lovely type, balanced shape, well ribbed body, good topline and underline, enough rear angulation, tight feet, easy smooth moving hound with plenty of reach.
- 3. Bruce's KILLOUGHERY TALIA. Balanced outline, perfectly set ears, would like a little more length of muzzle, good topline, well boned forelegs of good length, nicely angulated rear.

GRADUATE BITCH 7, (3)

- 1. Pinkney's HYDEBECK DREAM OF DREAMS. Upstanding wheaten bitch who certainly has a commanding appearance. Nice head, lovely small rose ear, strong neck into good shoulder and upperarm, deep ribs well carried back, short loin, super angulated hindquarters, broad with plenty of muscle. Good profile reach but wouldn't settle moving up and down.
- 2. Forret's VALKIRIA DELLA BASSA PAVESE AT CULVERCROFT (IMP ITA)
- 3. Sales's FRANCISTOWN KATIE GRACE. I don't think this bitch had been to a show before, she has so much to like about her. Her movement up and down is untidy, but good in profile. She is such an old-fashioned type, lovely head, small ear, nicely angulated front and rear with deep ribs carried well back, good feet.

POST GRADUATE BITCH 6,(4)

- 1. Pinkney's HYDEBECK DREAM OF DREAMS
- Pateman's GLYDAS GOLD MOTH. Young bitch, a lot to like about her, super front angulation, depth and breadth of chest, good underline, nice rise over loin to gentle slope over croup. Moves out with plenty of reach, just needs to tidy up in rear action a little, promising girl.
- 3. Fox's NEWDIGATE DORIS DAY. Lovely type, nice curvy outline, needs more length and lay of upperarm, well angled quarters broad thighs well-muscled, nice profile action.

LIMIT BITCH 8,(3)

- Fox's BARRASSY'S COPYRIGHT JW. Very feminine bitch, nothing flashy about her, everything flows so seamlessly under the hand. A curvaceous outline from her neck to her shoulder, topline, and croup. She is well-boned with tight feet, good underline and sweeping hindquarters, has the width of pelvis and good muscle tone, moves with a light, easy gait, foot perfect driving off low hocks, covering the ground without effort. Well deserved Bitch CC and BIS.
- 2. Crosse's GOLDSWIFT SWEET DISCOVERY. Not dissimilar to 1, but longer cast. Flowing lines, plenty of depth, would like a touch more fill in front, ribbing deep and carried well back to super angulated hindquarters, lovely topline and line to croup, easy mover.

3. Pask's BARONGLEN MISS MATILDA Upstanding bitch with a lovely head, and strong neck, fair shoulder but forward set upper arm and needs more forechest, good depth of body and broad well angled muscular hindquarters, moves well in profile and true fore and aft.

OPEN BITCH 2, (2)

1. Treadwell's FLOYDIAN SAVANNA. Not the biggest bitch but so well made. Nice head though touch short in foreface, small well-set ear. No exaggeration about her, arched neck into nicely set forehand, upper arm is well set but would benefit from a touch more length, she has forechest, deep ribs carried well back into well angulated muscular rear, she looks like a hunter, liked her a lot. RES BITCH CC.

CHAMPION CLASS 2 (2)